

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama



No. 3970.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1903.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

LINNÆAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.—NOTICE
IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the GENERAL MEETING, to be held
on DECEMBER 15, will be made SPECIAL for the election of a
COUNCILLOR and ZOOLOGICAL SECRETARY in the room of Prof.
George Bond Howe, resigned.

B. DAYTON JACKSON, General Secretary.

SCOTTISH TEXT SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SCOTTISH TEXT
SOCIETY will be held in DOWELL'S ROOMS, 18, GEORGE STREET,
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Secretary Westmorland County Education Committee,
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in the afternoon of SATURDAY, December 12, 1903. Personal con-
sideration of any member of the Council will be a disqualification.

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Town Hall, Kensington, W., November 28, 1903.

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"In the following pages I have tried to record the noble actions I have witnessed, and to describe the men I have been associated with. I have set down nought in malice, and therefore beg my readers to forgive what may be my prejudices."

Lord Wolseley would have been wiser if, instead of asking forgiveness, he had drawn his pen through a great deal which he has put down. The accounts of the campaigns in which he played an important and gallant part are bright and well written, but there is not sufficient selection or method in his narrative; and unweighed remarks, fatiguing prejudices, and protestations are tediously interwoven with it.

Lord Wolseley comes from a fighting stock. His grandfather and two uncles were all of them in the Royal Dragoons. The grandfather served with his regiment throughout the Seven Years' War in Germany, and at its close, returning to England with it, he fell in love, and married the orphan daughter of a Huguenot father who had settled in the west of England. "Her fortune was small, but her fecundity was prodigious. Alas! she presented my impetuous grandfather with fifteen children." Such a man was destined for the Church, and being offered by Dr. Garnet, who was Bishop of Clogher, and his uncle by marriage, an Irish living, he took orders and died a rector. Two of his sons entered the army. The father of Lord Wolseley sold out when he was major, married, and bought Golden Bridge House, County Dublin, where his illustrious son was born on June 24th, 1833. He represented the third generation

born in Ireland. Garnet Wolseley was under nineteen when he joined the provisional battalion at Chatham early in June, 1852, as an ensign in the 80th, now called by its old official title, the South Staffordshire Regiment. This Chatham battalion consisted of the depôts of all the Queen's regiments serving in India, and Wolseley tells us that

"the great bulk of those I met at Chatham, and afterwards in India and Burmah, at that time, struck me, I remember, as wanting in good breeding, and all seemed badly educated."

It is sad to think of the many soldiers Lord Wolseley has had the misfortune to meet who seemed badly educated. In Burmah "the officers I lived with were neither well read, interesting, nor amusing." In the Crimea, however, the captain of his company had taken a University degree. "I do not know what he had learnt thereby, but I do know that he had learnt nothing of a soldier's duties in the field." It is refreshing to find that his fellow-subaltern was "clever, a great reader, fond of the classics." But unfortunately Lord Wolseley dislikes the classics, especially Greek; he lathes the gods of Greece, and the "absurd" mythology which is bound up with the art, literature, and life of every cultivated nation to-day. From "boyhood to this day" he has cherished "the poorest opinions of Homer's heroes as fighting men."

During the last week of June, 1852, Ensign Wolseley sailed for India on board a transport, and after a short stay at the Cape, the low-lying mudbanks of the Hughly were sighted towards the end of October. As they neared Calcutta they heard the minute guns being fired from Fort William, and a voice from the first boat cried: "The Duke of Wellington is dead!" This gives Lord Wolseley an opportunity of indulging his prejudice against "able ministers" and "self-called statesmen," and of telling a new story about the great Duke:—

"His was no churchwarden-like policy, and his reputation for general sagacity, as well as for military leadership, was as fully recognized abroad as it was with us. Not very many years before his death war between Prussia and France was believed to be inevitable. As the Prussians had no great general then, their king turned to Wellington and asked him to take command of the Prussian army should war be forced upon him. His answer was very characteristic of the man. He said he was the Queen's servant, and would do as she ordered him. This is a fact little known, for the expected war was postponed for another generation."

Soon after landing in India, Wolseley was sent with the 80th draft from home to Burmah. He had, however, not been long in Rangoon when he was ordered to join, with the 80th recruits, the expedition which was about to proceed against a notorious robber chieftain, Nya-Myat-Toon, who had proved himself a bold and daring dacoit by capturing our boats in their progress up and down the Irrawaddy. His power lay around Donabaw, a town on the right bank of the stream, which is often mentioned in the annals of the second Burmese war. An attack made on the dacoit by a small force under Capt. Loch (not Lock, as it is four times printed) ended in disaster. Like all

mistakes in war, it created much discussion. Lord Wolseley draws from it, and "his own experience," the conclusion "that the stern and excellent discipline on board ship is not always so trustworthy when sailors are converted into infantry soldiers ashore." He says:—

"Admiral Sir William Hewitt, who accompanied me to Koomassee with a battalion of sailors, was a friend for whom I had the warmest affection, and as a wise and dashing sailor the greatest admiration. He said to me when he had got back to Cape Coast Castle, 'Never again will anything induce me to land blue-jackets to act as infantry. I will always give you as many as you want to fight guns as artillerymen, but never again as foot soldiers.' Such was the result of his experience in Ashantee."

Lord Wolseley gives an interesting account of the long-forgotten expedition to Donabaw, and a stirring description of the attack on a stockade, in which he led the storming party and was severely wounded. When well enough to be moved, he was sent to Calcutta, and home by a long sea voyage round the Cape. The vessel touched at St. Helena, and he paid a visit to Napoleon's first burial-place. Napoleon, as is generally known, is Lord Wolseley's special hero. He tells us: "The lawgiver Moses, the chosen leader of his people, comes in many ways near him; but Napoleon was Moses and Aaron and Joshua all in one." Soon after his arrival in England Garnet Wolseley obtained his lieutenantancy and was transferred to the 90th Light Infantry.

"Amongst the officers of my regiment, nice fellows as they were, only a few cared much for the Army as a profession. All were proud of belonging to a splendidly drilled Light Infantry Battalion—drilled according to the practice of war in the Peninsula, before the introduction of the rifled musket. They thought themselves socially superior to the ordinary regiments of the Line, which were always spoken of as 'Grabbies.' Many of them were well connected, and some were well off. It was in every respect a home for gentlemen, and in that respect much above the great bulk of Line regiments."

This is a hard and rash saying, and it should never have been printed by one who holds a commission. On November 19th, 1854, a fortnight after the battle of Inkerman, the 90th embarked at Kingstown for the Crimea, and on December 3rd they sighted the land-locked little harbour of Balaclava:—

"As soon as we were moored, several old acquaintances of the Light Cavalry Brigade came on board. I remember thinking they were poor creatures, for they all said they meant to go home as soon as possible."

As a rule, an officer and gentleman does not brand in print his "old acquaintances" as "poor creatures." Lord Wolseley's account of his personal experiences during the Crimean War is interesting, but it lacks the quality of sobriety. He served in the trenches as assistant-engineer, and he found the professional engineers not "by any means as clever as they thought they were."

"But if our engineers were old-fashioned, so were our generals. No new light, no useful gleam of imagination or originality, ever illumined whatever may have been their reasoning powers. Never was any great siege more stupidly planned throughout."

It was in the trenches that he first met Charles Gordon:—

"A good-looking, curly-headed young man of my own age, both of us being then in our twenty-second year." "We were friends, drawn together by ties never formulated in words. In a conversation I had with him the year he left England, never to return, he told me he prayed daily for two men, of whom I was one."

Lord Wolseley tells again with considerable power the story of the assault of the Quarries and the repulse of the Allies in June, 1855, familiar to all (and their name is legion) who have read 'The Invasion of the Crimea.' It is a misfortune that Lord Wolseley cannot write about Lord Raglan's military virtues without dragging in an offensive remark:—

"His steadfast courage, and his kindness of heart to all about him, were taking traits in his character, whilst his well-born dignity of manner had doubtless much influence over foreigners upon all of whom God had not been so bountiful in natural gifts."

Good taste is also one of the natural gifts of God.

The chapters on the Indian Mutiny, like the chapters on the Crimea, present very little fresh material; but we find statements which will give rise to discussion. It is most certainly "an unworthy suspicion" that Sir Colin Campbell at Lucknow employed Lord Wolseley's company "upon a dangerous attempt which, although it might not succeed, might yet open the way for the Highlanders." Sir Colin, in order to save his infantry, had determined to use his guns as much as possible. And it was after the Mess House had been battered for about three hours and the musketry fire had begun to slacken that the chief, thinking it might be stormed "without much risk" (to use his own words), gave the order to advance. It is misleading to entitle it "Assault of Mess House by 90th L.I." The storming party consisted not only of a company of the 90th Foot under Capt. Wolseley, but also of a piquet of Her Majesty's 53rd under Capt. Hopkins, supported by Major Barnston's battalion of detachments under Capt. Guise, Her Majesty's 90th Foot, and some of the Punjab Infantry under Lieut. Powlett. Lord Wolseley claims the credit of being the first to cross the drawbridge and enter the Mess House. He writes:—

"An old captain of that regiment [53rd] now came forward and wanted to find out from me whether he or I was the senior as a captain, and therefore in command of the place. I don't remember his name, though I do his face. I am afraid my answer was not couched in very polite terms, and I saw no more of him for the rest of the day."

The old captain was Hopkins, known as one of the most daring men in the British army. To him Malleeson assigns the credit of having first crossed the drawbridge. It was Capt. Hopkins and Sir David Baird who assisted Lord Roberts, then Lieut. Roberts, to plant a regimental colour on one of the turrets of the building. Lord Wolseley writes:—

"Some one in after years asserted that I claimed the honour of having hoisted a Union Jack upon this Mess House when we took it. My answer was, that it was taken by my company, immediately supported by Captain Irby's company, also of the 90th Light Infantry, but I did not know who the hero was that had

hoisted a flag upon it: all I knew was, that it was not I who had done so, and that no flag was hoisted upon the Mess House whilst I was in it, and as to what took place after my company had gone through it to take the Motee Mahul, I could say nothing."

In the early editions of Malleeson's 'History of the Indian Mutiny' the credit of the flag incident was awarded to Capt. Wolseley. The "some one" was Archibald Forbes. In his life of Havelock he writes: "The credit of this exploit, as well as the capture of the Motee Mahul, has been accepted by another officer, who has since risen to distinction." It was as easy for Lord Wolseley to know who "the hero" was as to remember the name of Capt. Hopkins. The name of Roberts is mentioned once in his book, and he was an American missionary in Canton. Lord Wolseley succeeded Lord Roberts as D.A.A.G. on Hope Grant's staff. He served on the staff of that able and gallant general during the rest of the Indian campaign and the war with China. The chapters on China and Japan are in point of literary skill and freedom from prejudice the best in the book.

Early in 1861 Col. Wolseley returned to Europe, and was enjoying a well-earned holiday in Ireland, when, owing to the Trent affair, he was sent to Canada as Assistant-Quartermaster-General. Before he reached Montreal war had been averted, and in 1862 he obtained two months' leave and visited the headquarters of the Southern Army. He had frequent interviews with General Lee, "one of the few men who ever seriously impressed and awed me with their natural, their inherent greatness." He also met "Stonewall Jackson,"

"a man in whom great strength of character and obstinate determination were mated with extreme gentleness of disposition and with absolute tenderness towards all about him."

He asked the great Puritan soldier, who had visited England, which of all his recollections he prized most.

"Jackson thought for a couple of minutes, and then, turning upon me those remarkable eyes, lit up for the moment with a look of real enthusiasm, he answered, 'The seven lancet windows in York Minster.'"

At the close of the Confederate War Col. Wolseley was appointed Commandant of the La Prairie Camp, intended to drill and train the Canadian militia officers. About six years later, when Quartermaster-General in Canada, he was selected to command the Red River expedition, sent to put down an insignificant rebellion:—

"As far as fighting is concerned it was a bloodless campaign, and although great physical difficulties were encountered and manfully overcome by the troops employed, not a life had been lost."

In 1871, on his return from Canada, Lord Wolseley joined the Head-Quarters Army Staff at the time when Mr. Cardwell was introducing his important army reforms. He was one of the civilian Secretaries of State whom Lord Wolseley is so fond of abusing, and to carry out his reforms he had to fight "soldiers of experience." Lord Wolseley also forgets that when a man ceases to hold high office, he ought not to throw away dignity and restraint. He states:—

"We are never ready for war, and yet we never have a Cabinet that would dare to tell the people the truth. Our absolute unreadiness for war is known to all our thoughtful soldiers."

Lord Wolseley's speeches before the Boer war helped to lead the vast majority of people to believe in our readiness for it. In the concluding sentence of his book he writes:—

"But should my narrative interest the general reader, it will be a pleasure to continue it to the date when I gladly bid good-bye to the War Office, and ceased to be the nominal Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Land Forces." No man should permit himself to be the nominal head of a responsible office. When a soldier of high repute finds he cannot with credit to himself or advantage to the State exercise the functions of his high command, owing to friction with the civil powers, he is bound, in honour to himself, to the army and the Crown, to resign that command.

Lord Wolseley's book is sure to interest the general reader, but we trust that in future editions the prejudices and the petulant declamations, and the frequent examples of bad taste, will be removed.

The Creevey Papers. Edited by the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P. 2 vols. (Murray.)

THOMAS CREEVEY, whose copious papers Sir Herbert Maxwell has ably and conscientiously edited, should be regarded, no doubt, as an unusually acrid specimen of the Whig in opposition. He is spiteful, informative, entertaining. After his death Lord Melbourne described him to Charles Greville as "very shrewd, but exceedingly bitter and malignant." Yet his tirades against his contemporaries—by no means sparing his own side—differ only in degree from the acerbities of Brougham and Lord Grey. When Lord Castlereagh perished by his own hand, the first of those statesmen, after admitting that a gentleman had gone, expressed his satisfaction that Whitbread and Romilly, both of whom had committed suicide, had been, "as it were, revenged." When Canning had been harassed into the grave, Lord Grey wished that Creevey could write his epitaph. Even if we make allowance for changes of manners, it must be admitted that those were days when the political game was far from being played in the grand style.

With some miscellaneous exceptions, the continuity of Creevey's correspondence begins in 1802, when he had entered Parliament as member for one of the Duke of Norfolk's pocket boroughs, to find the Addington Ministry in place rather than in power. The intervention of Mr. Pitt in debate was the thing to be dreaded: "God continue Fox's prudence and Pitt's gout!" writes Creevey piously. The Whigs, on the other hand, buoyed themselves up with the hope that George III. would become permanently insane, and their good friend the Prince of Wales would provide for them. The intimacy of the alliance between the Prince and them did continue for several years. Creevey endeavoured to persuade the gentle Romilly into the acceptance of a seat as a royal nominee, and though the answer was in the negative, it expressed the profusest gratitude.

In a lively paper of reminiscences he subsequently set down his recollections of Carlton House and the Pavilion at Brighton. At a dinner given to some thirty members of the Opposition

"the only thing that made an impression upon me in favour of the Prince that day (always excepting his excellent manners and appearance of good humour) was his receiving a note during dinner which he flung across the table to Fox and asked if he must not answer it, which Fox assented to; and then, without the slightest fuss, the Prince left his place, went into another room and wrote an answer, which he brought to Fox for his approval, and when the latter said it was quite right, the Prince seemed delighted, which I thought very pretty in him, and a striking proof of Fox's influence over him."

Creevey seized his opportunities with much social adroitness. His wife became an intimate friend of Mrs. Fitzherbert, and wrote of her with an admiration which was probably sincere. But the household at the Pavilion must have been decidedly raffish, what with the host's propensity to make his guests drunk, and Sheridan's practical jokes, which were none too refined. All stood in awe, however, of the tremendous Thurlow, even in his decline:—

"Sir Philip Francis, whom I knew intimately, and who certainly was a remarkably quick and clever man, was perpetually vowing vengeance against Thurlow, and always fixing his time during this autumn of 1805 for 'making an example of the old ruffian,' either at the Pavilion or wherever he met him; but I have seen them meet afterwards, and tho' Thurlow was always ready for battle, Francis, who on all other occasions was bold as a lion, would never stir."

Creevey's assiduity was rewarded, under the "Talents" administration, by the post of Secretary to the Board of Controul, which included the duties of party whip. But the collapse of that Government relegated him to Opposition again, and thenceforth his diary and correspondence overflow with bile. He attached himself to Whitbread, and that strenuous politician had at least the merit of showing fight. The discussions at Brooks's over the tortuous conduct of Mr. Tierney ("Mother Cole") and the incompetence of Mr. Ponsonby ("Snouch"), however, are far from edifying. There were seasons of collective rejoicing, as when Lord Grey made "an admirable speech, disputing the military, moral, and intellectual fame of Lord Wellington most capitally." The Prince, nevertheless, showed political sagacity when, on becoming Regent, he resolved on maintaining his father's Cabinet. Creevey's indignant *cri de cœur* when, on peeping down the area of the Tory Prime Minister, Mr. Perceval, he perceived "three man cooks and twice as many maids" preparing dinner for "Prinny" does not count for much. It is printed opposite a letter from Lord Holland, in which the divisions among the Whigs are subjected to a searching scrutiny. Lady Holland's description of Madame de Staël's appearance in London society is worth quoting:—

"The great wonder of the time is Mme. de Staël. She is surrounded by all the curious, and every sentence she utters is caught and repeated with various commentaries. Her first appearance was at Ly. Jersey's, where Lady Hertford also was, and looked most

scornfully at her, pretending her determination not to receive her as she was an *atheist*! and immoral woman. This harsh resolve was mitigated by an observation very agreeable to the observer—that her personal *charms* have greatly improved within the last 25 years. She (Mme. de Staël) is violent against the Emperor, who, she says, is not a man—"ce n'est point un homme, mais un système"—an Incarnation of the Revolution. Women he considers as only useful "pour produire les conscrits"; otherwise "c'est une classe qu'il voudroit supprimer." She is much less ugly than I expected; her eyes are fine, and her hand and arm very handsome. She was flummerying Sheridan upon the excellence of his heart and moral principles, and he in return upon her beauty and grace. She is to live in Manchester Street, and go occasionally to breathe the country air at Richmond Inn."

This was in 1813, by which time the indefatigable Brougham had contrived to set up the wrongs of the Princess of Wales as a stumbling-block to Lord Liverpool's Government. Creevey's cynical joy in the progress of the lamentable scandal is characteristic. There are many pages upon the preparations for Queen Caroline's trial, and that squalid function itself. Brougham's letters read most discreditably even if we acquit him of the charge—which his dear friend Creevey believed, however—of being in secret communication with Carlton House. Creevey himself remained abroad for some six years, his income having fallen, by the death of his wife, to extremely narrow dimensions. But the death of George III. found him in England again, and he became a garrulous spectator of the proceedings against the queen. On the death of the unhappy woman, Brougham confided to Creevey that "through the whole of this business he had never been much for the queen."

Let us desert Creevey the politician for a while, and follow him into society, where he thought no small things of himself:—

"Brougham was sitting at Holland House on Sunday morning with my lady and various others, when a slight thunderstorm came on, and, according to invariable custom, my lady bolted. Presently the page summoned Brougham and conducted him to my lady's bedchamber, where he found all the windows closed and the candles lighted. She said she did not like to be left alone, so she pressed him to stay and dine, but upon his saying he must keep his engagement at Ridley's—"Ah," said she, "you will meet Creevey there, I suppose. What can be the reason he never comes near me?"—"We both of us laughed heartily at her conscience and fears thus smiting her when she thought herself in danger; so I must leave her to another storm or two before I go to her."

Creevey was evidently much in request. He was a "quiz" with a knack of inventing nicknames. So high did his vivacity run that great ladies had to pinch him to keep him quiet. At the same time, he seems to have scorned to play the parasite, and took care that he was properly considered, whether at Holland House or elsewhere. Thence came a pronounced jealousy of rival conversationalists; Macaulay, for example, he trenchantly sets down as "a noisy, vulgar fellow." We may question, perhaps, if he was always so courageous as he makes himself out to be. When O'Connell's agitation began Creevey armed himself with introductions and visited his native country—for so he chose to compliment Ireland, though

he was born in Liverpool, and had turned sixty before he made the expedition. His vivacious description of Hibernian hospitality is well done, and he is more thoughtful than usual when commenting on the efforts of landlords like Lord Bessborough to improve the condition of the peasantry.

In the concluding chapters a certain decline in political importance is to be discovered, but they remain brimful of good stories. Thus, when Priam was favourite for the Derby, Lord Ranelagh expressed his trust in God that a heathen deity would never win the race.

Creevey's description of Lord Grey in his retirement is one of the few touches of feeling to be discovered, and there are also some pretty pictures of Queen Victoria's youthful dignity which help to remove the unpleasant taste left by the confectioner of scandal.

Sir Herbert Maxwell has edited the volumes with much literary deftness, but he might have been more successful in tracing to their origins the nicknames with which the volumes are bespattered. Thus Lord Lansdowne was called Roscius, after Canning's lines:—

Illustrious Roscius of the State!
New-breeched and harness'd for debate,
Thou wonder of thy age!
Petty or Betty art thou hight,
By Grants sent to strut thy night
On Stephen's bustling stage.

Lord Henry Petty, that is, and Master Betty, "the juvenile Roscius," Raikes, of the diary, too, was surely worth a footnote. Warren Hastings's opponent was Monson, not "Manson," though Creevey may conceivably have written him so; and William Lamb, Lord Melbourne, spelt his surname without a final *e*.

Giordano Bruno By J. Lewis McIntyre.
(Macmillan & Co.)

WHATEVER, during his own lifetime, may have been the afflictions of that rather unsavoury hero Giordano Bruno, however little success his efforts at self-advertisement may have found with his contemporaries of the sixteenth century, it cannot be said that he has failed in the long run to attract as much attention as he can fairly be said to deserve. From the middle of the eighteenth century onwards his speculations have been a favourite subject of study in Germany. More recently his own countrymen have written a good deal about him, besides erecting a statue in his honour; while in England, apart from notices in histories of literature or philosophy, few years have passed during the last two decades without somebody rediscovering him and making him known to the intelligent public. Mr. McIntyre's is, indeed, only the second complete and self-contained account of the Nolan's life and philosophy which has appeared during that period, and being on the whole well done, it may serve its purpose; but the author himself supplies the names of half a dozen writers in English who have treated of the subject in the last ten years only. If he had gone a little further back, he might have included the not unpopular name of J. A. Symonds (who, by the way, throws

about as much light as there is to throw on Bruno's doings in England), as well as a somewhat severe, but not essentially unfair, presentation of Bruno from the orthodox Catholic point of view by the late Marquis of Bute, republished, and noticed in these columns, a couple of years ago. We even seem to remember, some twenty years back, a novel on the same theme. There is, therefore, no lack of information about Bruno at the service of any one who requires it. Perhaps it might be better for his fame if there were less. His philosophical speculations, though interesting doubtless to connoisseurs in that line, do not offer much stimulus to the ordinary reader, especially if he happen to have any acquaintance with the manner of the mystical school of a century or two earlier. Such a passage as "*È talmente forma, che non è forma; è talmente materia, che non è materia; è talmente anima, che non è anima; perchè è il tutto indifferente*," reads like one of the less happy efforts of Meister Eckhart, or one of that great man's followers. Or to take a passage quoted by Mr. McIntyre:—

"Nowhere is essence apart from existence; nature is nothing but the virtue that is immanent (*insita*) in things, and the law by which all things fulfil their course. There is no abstract that subsists in logical reason but not in reality [is this correctly rendered?], no justice by which things are just, no goodness through which they are good, wisdom through which they are wise, nor are *deitas* and *feritas* the ground of existence [again we feel inclined to query the rendering] of gods and beasts; nor is it light by which shining bodies shine."

Surely the Nominalists had come to the same conclusion before Bruno's great-grandfather—or his great-grandfather, for the matter of that—was a baby. Or take such a profound remark as, "Doctors fear when one is in the best of health; it is in the height of happiness that the foreseeing are the most timid." Somehow one seems to remember a verse about "*Sperat infestis, metuit secundis*," by an Italian author somewhat antecedent to Bruno. One sees, indeed, a certain meaning, though perhaps not a very fertile one, in the statement that "there is but one potency of two contraries, because contraries are apprehended by one and the same sense." Even this leads up to a characteristic bit of quackery: "Profound magic is to know how to extract the contrary after having found the point of union." But when as an illustration we are told that "the element of heat, its 'principle,' must be indivisible—it cannot have differences within itself, and neither be hot nor cold, therefore it is an identity of hot and cold," we begin to think that the schoolmen were not the only people who could fool about with abstractions. Aristotle's philosophy may have run somewhat to seed by the fifteenth century; but Aristotle at least observed for himself so far as his opportunities allowed him, and it is a little irritating to find him snubbed by this loquacious Neapolitan, who probably never did an hour's original observing in his life. It is almost worse when Bruno patronizes Cardinal Cusanus, a man who did yeoman's service in his time on the task of leaving the world a little better than he found it. Bruno, we fear, cared little whether the world was better or worse for him. He is

the "superior person" all over—"an aristocrat of learning," his biographer calls him; one who, "whether a son of the people or not, had never the slightest respect for that body." "Distrust of the natural man," we are presently told, in a sentence involving a really funny misconception of Christian teaching, "he had imbibed along with the teaching of the Church, and doubt as to his capacity for receiving or understanding the truth"—as if the "natural man" of our Authorized Version were a synonym for the lower orders. This intellectual arrogance is always breaking in, even when Bruno is talking on the whole good sense; as he does, if with a fair share of his usual provocative bombast, in the '*Spaccio della Bestia Trionfante*,' the general idea of which treatise is praiseworthy enough. But Mr. McIntyre truly points out that

"there is not in Bruno, any more than in Spinoza, any sense of the infinite worth, or the infinite pitifulness of man, as an earth-born creature of hopes and fears, creeping towards the light.....Therefore, though he lived in the midst of the Reformation, its true meaning passed him by."

To a man of Bruno's temperament nothing could have been more galling than his total failure to make any impression on those into whose company he came. If we are to believe his own statements, he lived in considerable intimacy with various eminent statesmen and scholars in France, England, and Germany; yet none of them has anything to say about him, and the only records of his wanderings appear to be a cancelled matriculation at Marburg, an appeal against excommunication—Protestant excommunication—at Helmstadt, and a rejected petition at Frankfurt. His name is missing from the '*Ragguagli di Parnasso*,' in which Boccacini would surely have found a place for him if he had ever heard of him. That clean-minded gentlemen, like Sidney and Mauvissière, should not be in a hurry to boast of their acquaintance with the author of the '*Candelaio*' (which, be it remembered, whenever it may have been written, was published by Bruno when he was a man of mature years) is, perhaps, not surprising; but in Paris, though even there obscenity in literature was at that time no more *de rigueur* than, *pace* Mr. McIntyre, it was in Italy or England, that delectable work would have done his reputation no harm. Somehow the remarks on the '*Candelaio*' in the present work do not convince us that they are made from first-hand acquaintance. If the author has not read it his state is the more gracious. On the other hand, if he has, we do not quite understand his rendering of the title by '*The Torchbearer*.' Whatever it does mean, it certainly does not and cannot mean that. There is not much of the '*vital lampada tradunt*' about it, if that is the suggestion; if there is, they are uncommonly smutty "*lampada*." Equally natural was it that Bruno should fancy that mankind were in a league to persecute him.

Sorda invidia, vil rabbio, iniquo zelo,
Crudo cor, empio ingegno, strano ardire,
Non basteranno a farmi l'aria bruna,

he says in a sonnet quoted by Hallam. As a matter of fact, till he was well over forty

he seems to have had a good time enough. That it was an abominable shame to burn him we quite agree, also that Mocenigo played the part of a thorough blackguard; but why he deserves a statue any more than Paleario or Carnesecchi, or several other estimable persons who did *not* write dirty plays or go about the world insulting people who did not take them at their own valuation, but suffered with no less constancy for the right of free thought, we do not see.

Mr. McIntyre has not verified all his historical references with quite so much care as he might. Giovanni Bruno can hardly have named his son Filippo in 1548 "in deference to the King of Spain," seeing that the King of Spain's name just then was Charles. Nor could Bruno's reason for leaving Toulouse at the end of 1581, or Paris two years later, have had anything to do with civil wars, for the good reason that no civil war was going on at either date. It is very possible, on the other hand, that his second departure from Paris, in 1586, may have been due to a consciousness that neither his writings nor his intimacy with some prominent Protestants in England were exactly the sort of thing to ingratiate him with the zealots of the League. Mary of Guise had not, we think, for obvious reasons, much to do with stimulating Mauvissière's exertions on behalf of her unlucky daughter. "Prince Henry of Angoulême" is an odd designation for the bastard son of Henry II., commonly known as the Grand Prior of France; nor were Spagnolo and Commissario respectively the surnames of the Spanish friar whom Bruno consulted in Paris, and the commissary who shared with Bellarmine the duty of investigating the charges against him at the end. The Satires of Juvenal have not yet been, as a reference on p. 104 would seem to imply, divided into books.

There seems to be a reminiscence of Dante in the passage quoted from the '*Cabala*' about an interchange of form between a man and a serpent. In some sentences of the original the resemblance of language is so close as to make it almost certain that Bruno had '*Int.*' xxv. 100 *sqq.* in his mind when he was writing them.

As a final suggestion, we would ask whether the "*Vispure*" to which Bruno went after Mainz may not very well be Weissenburg. That town was more important in those days than it subsequently became, and has other memories than those of a battle a generation ago.

A Social History of Ancient Ireland, 2 vols. By P. W. Joyce. (Longmans & Co.)

WE hail these two handsome volumes—fine specimens of Dublin printing and illustrating—as a genial and good-tempered contribution to a very controversial subject. There is actually no Irish scholar attacked or vilified throughout the whole book. From this point of view, we strongly commend it to the attention of modern Irish writers. There is also set down here a vast array of special knowledge, gathered from Irish sources by a man who knows modern Irish as a mother tongue, and probably can make out old and middle Irish as well as most scholars.

From his myriad quotations Dr. Joyce produces a series of pictures of old Irish civilization which will astonish most of his readers. But they do not make in any proper sense a 'Social History'; they are no more than the materials for such a history—if, indeed, it can ever be constructed. For the want of continuity in our materials, and the immense gaps which still remain to be filled up, make Dr. Joyce's book rather a dictionary of Irish antiquities than a connected and articulated history. Thus, for example, there are endless precise commands in the Brehon laws, but whether they were ever obeyed, or by what process they were enforced, we seem to have no information—or rather our information tells us that they were not obeyed. Again, to take another example out of many, there are humane directions for the saving of injured vessels and the protection and support of shipwrecked crews, and yet, when the Spaniards of the Armada were wrecked on the west coast, not one vestige of any such humanity was shown them, though they came as enemies of England and pious Catholics. The only idea in the barbarous folk was to plunder or even murder them. Nor can it be said that by this time English influences had destroyed all respect for the native law among these savages. In those parts the monasteries had not been touched by Henry VIII., being beyond the reach of English law; the Four Masters were living in Donegal, preparing their great work, which they composed during the succeeding thirty years. In fact, there was no reason why the high civilization implied by the Brehon law should have wholly disappeared. This is a curious problem not to be solved by Dr. Joyce's brocard: The English invasion had destroyed everything distinctive and good in the native civilization.

We cannot but feel that here, as elsewhere in the book, our author shows a want of historic sense and historic training. This is excusable in a man who has spent an arduous life among primary schools, and has had little leisure till the time of his retirement from official life. It is, indeed, very meritorious that in his busiest days he should have accomplished his excellent book on Irish place-names and his candid and dispassionate elementary history of Ireland. But a wide training in the laws of historical evidence and a comparative study of kindred human developments are very much wanting in his volumes, profoundly interesting as they are. As an example of what we mean, we may quote such a sentence as this:—

"One most important pronouncement he [Tigernach in his 'Annals'] makes, which has been the subject of much discussion, that all the Irish accounts before the time of Cimbæth, B.C. 370, are uncertain."

Surely this is an obvious platitude to any historian. Again, we are told that there were houses of hospitality open through all the inhabited country, where bed and board were always ready, free of charge. At what date this could have been even partially true we know not, but this we know, that when the Papal Legate sent to report on St. Patrick's Purgatory in Lough Derg travelled the country about 1494, he reported to Isabella d'Este in an interesting

letter that all the inhabitants were thieves, and their extortions practised upon the pilgrims caused Pope Alexander VI. to suppress the celebration. "The manufacture of bronze and iron spearheads was carried to great perfection long before the Christian era." We demand proof of the antiquity of these weapons, and then proof that they were not imported. The description of the old Irish camp in campaigns apparently primeval is as clearly copied from a Roman camp as can be, and the writer was evidently attributing to his nation attainments which he knew from Roman sources. Still stranger, we hear of an order of knighthood in Ireland in the legends of Cuculain, whose alleged date is the first century. Is not this surely the anachronism of the chronicler? In the same way we doubt the knowledge of Greek asserted of old Irish abbots in the eleventh century, though here Dr. Joyce cites Dr. Charles O'Connor to support him. Such curiosities require careful and detailed proof.

We frequently meet a certain childish simplicity in accepting very improbable statements, and in connexion with it a want of humour not uncommon in Irish authors, however they may boast of that quality in the nation.

"Here you see a tall gentleman walking along with a scarlet cloak flowing loosely over a jacket of purple, with perhaps blue trousers and yellow headgear."

This is an ordinary type of old Irish full dress.

"The principal teacher [in the first century] of Cuculain in the use of his weapons was the lady [name unpronounceable] who had a military academy in Scotland, where a great many of the chief heroes of Ireland received their military education."

At the same period the Irish holders of land

"were not tenants at will, for they could not be disturbed till the time of gaveling; even then each man kept his crops and got compensation for unexhausted improvements."

"It is worth while observing that the [pre-Christian] Carman festival bore a closer resemblance to the Isthmian, where there were contests of music and poetry, than to those of Olympia, where there were none."

The only probable likeness, viz., that there were a good many naked people at both, would be repudiated by Dr. Joyce as a libel on the excessive morality of the Irish.

We pass to the other point already mentioned—the lack of comparative study of a different sort from that just quoted, from which some light may be expected to illustrate large problems in Irish archaeology. Our author speaks throughout of the Irish people as one homogeneous Celtic population, developing from the earliest times an Aryan civilization, only injured by the advent of Danes or English invaders. He has wholly ignored the probability—or shall we say the certainty?—that the earliest Celtic invaders found a native population which they subdued, with whom they intermarried, upon whom they imposed their language, and yet the influence of this primitive people remains strong in Ireland till the present day. Old Irish legends speak of some such races, but generally as if they were not inferior or savage. They may have been Iberians or Basques, or something like these remnants, speaking, as primitive

savages now do, a host of distinct languages. They were probably a gentle and submissive people, to judge from the large remnants of them still clearly surviving (as to type) in wild parts of Ireland, and were ready then, as they now are, to follow their Celtic conquerors in ideas and ways of life. For such people seem wholly to lack initiative qualities. Yet these may be the people who show the taste for careful constructions and elaborate decorations so remarkable in early Ireland. Such admirable art does not, as Dr. Joyce thinks, prove high civilization. We can find that sort of genius in the savages of the Pacific islands. He has reproduced for us the head of a mace, which might have been found to-day in New Guinea. He shows us spirals, and decorated boats with a carved bird on the prow, which are similar to the present high art of the Solomon Islands. When he cites the description of a sword with teeth, which his authorities imagine to be the decoration of the scabbard with teeth, we can show him from the New Hebrides wooden daggers with shark's teeth set into them along the blade, so producing a serrated edge giving a shocking wound. How much, then, of the peculiar civilization of Ireland, assumed to be Celtic, is not Celtic at all, but primeval and pre-Aryan work?

Now let us turn to music. Here Dr. Joyce, who is a lover of music, and has even collected Irish airs, does not give us one word regarding the scales in which these tunes are composed. Surely those in the tetratonic scale (e.g., the black notes on a piano) are of an earlier stage than those plainly diatonic. And as regards their antiquity, has he searched Norse music for sister tunes? We are credibly informed that there are old Norse tunes identical with some known as Irish, and since all contact with the Danes ceased after the tenth century, either the Irish must have given the Danes these melodies before that date, or must have received them from the invaders. Here, again, we trust that Dr. Joyce has sown dragon's-teeth of suggestions.

We pass to another chapter, and find that he regards Ogam writing as an original Irish script, probably in use, even for literary purposes, long before Christianity appeared in the country. And here let us add he has the support of various great Celtic scholars. Yet, for all that, he cannot persuade us of either position. A glimpse at the character shows that it was invented for lapidary inscriptions, and never got beyond that stage. The first step in the analysis of the signs betrays that if pre-Christian it was certainly not earlier than Roman influences in Ireland. For the simplest five signs are the five vowels of the Latin alphabet. Any one who has honestly studied the history of the origins of alphabets should know that the separation of the vowels from the consonants is a late process, to which many well-known scripts never attained. The inventors of the Ogam alphabet most certainly knew the Latin grammar.

There are many other traces of Roman or Latin influence in the manners and customs described in mediæval Irish books. But a grave doubt arises in our minds whether these things were really borrowed by the

early Irish from observation of the Romans in Britain, or whether they were attributed to their ancestors by writers who copied the details from Latin books. We have already mentioned the description of the old Irish camp. In none of the historic wars fought by the English against them do we hear one word of such an orderly system. A graphic account of Irish hunting in another place has a most suspicious resemblance to Æneas and Dido's hunt as described by Virgil. The description of orderly meals and the words for them shows the same influence.

But all this runs contrary to the main thesis of the book, that the old Irish civilization was primitive Aryan, and far superior to any in Europe up to the tenth century. A foolish speculation recurs several times, that if Ireland had remained untouched by Danes or Normans she would have developed into a strong and homogeneous kingdom. Surely the early Norman invaders were completely assimilated by the Irish. During the century of the Wars of the Roses England paid no heed to Ireland, save to draw away Anglo-Irish lords to fight and get slain in the English quarrel. During the whole of that time Ireland made no step forward. Her tribal system and the co-existence of many rival chieftains condemned her for ever to particularism, even as the Greek free-city system made it impossible for Greece to unite except under foreign despotism.

The book is so full of interesting facts and of questionable inferences that we find great difficulty in selecting our examples. Of the latter we shall say no more than that the curious gaps in our information make all arguments *ex silentio* very precarious. Thus there is hardly a mention of cremation, and yet that form of burial has been attested by many excavations. There is, indeed, only small mention of pottery of any kind, yet there are ample vestiges of it which speak more plainly than words. There is no mention, as Dr. Joyce specially notes, of dancing, though there is so much about music. He infers that dancing was not an old Irish amusement. It seems to us more likely that our informants, being mostly monks or monkish, deliberately omitted things which seemed to them heathenish in flavour. Among the curious survivals of primitive hunting we note the method of killing deer by preparing for them pits furnished with sharp stakes, and covered with sods and brambles. This barbarous practice of laming deer, and then pursuing them with clubs, survived in the co. Donegal (Glen Veagh) in the nineteenth century, except that, instead of being forced into pits, the deer were driven along narrow passes under the cliffs, where they jumped downward on up-pointed stakes.

For the following we regret that we can find no modern analogy. To prove that locks and keys were common in early days, Dr. Joyce quotes from Adamnan's life this passage:—

"When Columba was surreptitiously copying St. Finnen's book of Psalms [in spite of their love of learning there seem to have been obstacles to the multiplication of books] Finnen sent a messenger to spy out what he was doing, who looked through the keyhole and saw him at the work. But the saint's pet crane, happening to be with him, walked over to the door and neatly picked the man's eye out through the keyhole."

We are told that "but recently our naturalists have discovered a native frog." The pet crane might have given them fuller information. Any one who walks moors in Ireland has seen plenty of them. Among the curious customs that of "fasting on a man" is specially remarkable, as it has its analogies still in India and China. You sat on a man's doorstep, if he refused to do you justice, and fasted rigidly, which the owner of the house was also compelled to do by public opinion, till a settlement of the dispute was attained. There were human pledges exacted among the chiefs as security for obedience or loyalty. Dr. Joyce says these pledges were often treated harshly. He should have told us that they were frequently put to death at the first news of revolt, and that this practice was adopted by English governors and deputies from the natives. He might have pointed out that in the splendid illuminations of the 'Book of Kells' no gold is employed, though gold was easily accessible; and he ought certainly to have provided a better map, or several maps, of the country.

But this is ungrateful, for he has opened for us a mine of antiquarian lore. We thank him particularly for transliterating old Irish orthography into intelligible combinations, viz., *oidheadh* (pron. ee-a), *brath-chaei* (pron. braukee). Let us conclude by quoting what is, perhaps, the only really poetical passage from the many cited by Dr. Joyce as specimens of literary perfection. We acknowledge that such judgments are subjective; but we hold that, as Prof. Zimmer thinks the modern Welsh lyrics published in weekly papers comparable to the lays of Alcaeus and Sappho, so the Irish enthusiasts of to-day overrate the genius and the purity of old Irish literature. Yet we think that all will agree concerning the beauty of the following passage, drawn from a simple prose tale:—

"It is related that a child, playing beside its mother near a cliff in the west of Clare, fell over the edge of Ireland into the sea, but was preserved from harm by the intercession of St. Senan. Those who heard the mother's shrieks ran down to look for him, and found him sitting quite safe in the trough of the sea where he had fallen, playing with the waves. For the waves would reach up to him, and laugh round him, and he was laughing at the waves, and putting the palm of his hand to the foam of the crests, and he would lick it like the foam of new milk."

We sincerely recommend this long labour of love to readers, both English and Irish, of all classes and creeds.

NEW NOVELS.

The Ambassadors. By Henry James. (Methuen & Co.)

A CHIEF aim of the art of novel-writing should be to conceal the fact that it is an art. Many of our present-day writers—those, above all, unchastened by experience—unconsciously deny this truth. Scorning to conceal their verbal cleverness, they thrust it instead into the very nostrils of the reader, confounding him with its savour. Mr. Henry James realizes, it is easy to see, the sinfulness of too openly rejoicing in his strength; struggles against it as ardently as the most stern of religious devotees against his physical self; yet all the time, with pleasant frequency, through-

out his pages can be discovered evidences of temporary failure in the unequal struggle. Nevertheless, the general effect is rather that of the athlete calmly conscious of his powers than of the would-be Hercules anxious only to lavish what power he has upon the better displaying of it. Granting all this, we find it hard to forgive such sentences as this: "But why, fondly as it's so easy to imagine your clinging to it, don't you put it away?" a query which might, not unjustly, be asked, in clearer words, of the author about the sentence itself. Or, again, "Her thought fitted with a click." In his endeavour to escape the obvious the author has evolved a thought which fits with an almost painfully audible "click." It would be ungracious, however, to harp too much upon these occasional spots which obscure so slightly the face of the sun. Like other of the author's works, 'The Ambassadors' is indubitably good work. Indeed, as a study of life as it is lived in the world of fact rather than in the world of romance by real Americans, who from such places as Woollett, Massachusetts, roam across the centuries to Chester or to Paris, the book is altogether satisfying. A sympathizing hand rests as lightly upon Lewis Lambert Strether, Ambassador most Extraordinary, as upon Maria Gostrey, the lady whose thoughts fit rather loudly into their appropriate places, or the Comtesse de Vionnet, giving to each its proper touch of illumination, to each its due place in the scenery.

Hesper. By Hamlin Garland. (Harper & Brothers.)

AFTER following a red herring for some years Mr. Hamlin Garland has at last returned to the old trail, and we hope he will keep to it. Not that his studies of life in Chicago, his 'Rose of Dutcher's Coolly' and the like, were anything but clever. But he had deliberately discarded the romantic elements of his own imagination. He gives us now a novel in which all things happen out of the average, and the result is a striking and thoroughly interesting story. The author has started out with the idea of bringing into efficient conflict the luxurious and dry-blooded East and the luxuriant and full-blooded West. The heroine, in search of health for her young brother, leaves New York and society for the Rockies and barbarism. At first she is contemptuous, then interested but angry, until she is finally drawn into that strenuous manly life where things do happen and events are not always fit for the drawing-room. It is in the passage of this girl's soul to the awakening, its return to the healthier condition of nature, that the psychological interest of Mr. Garland's book lies. But there is plenty of "story" also, as the incidents include wild life on a ranch and still wilder life in a mining camp, and the crack of the pistol echoes through all. The characters of the camp are well studied and well rendered, and the account of the fighting is vigorous. Altogether the tale is a successful blend of adventure and psychology, and we congratulate Mr. Garland on having returned to the West. It is as successful a visit as that of his heroine, Ann.

Musk of Roses. By Mary L. Pendered. (Cassell & Co.)

EQUIPPED with a pretty cover, and scattered over with poetry, this book has at first sight the air of a garden book; but on closer inspection it turns out to be a novel in the rather disabling form of a diary. The publishers inform us that all people who "feel the charm of an old-fashioned garden in an old-fashioned summer will enjoy this book." It is certain that no one feels the charm of the new-fashioned summer. But a little more than this qualification in a reader is necessary to the enjoyment of the book. He will require a certain amount of patience in following the thread of narrative which is obscured by much meditation and irrelevant small talk. But there is a plot of a kind, not particularly arresting, and it is obvious that the author has endeavoured to blend several forms of writing in which popularity has been achieved—namely, gardening, diaries, and fiction. Again to quote the publishers, "The book's value lies in its vivid portrayal of a very modern woman, and in its gospel of true friendship, which the author firmly believes is entirely independent of sex and its attractions." Unhappily for this theory, the heroine, Delia Wycombe, is discovered on one occasion in the arms of Lord Harroden, who is not her husband, and although on the lady's part it is an accident, the gentleman cannot be said to have been independent of the attractions of sex. However, the claim that 'Musk of Roses' contains the picture of a real woman must be allowed. Her husband is not so successful a portrait of a man, particularly a man who is a "yeoman." We fear that the craze for gardening and the country sometimes leads to an excess of zeal. On August 10th the thrush and the blackbird do not "sing heartily" and rear second broods. The summer silence begins in the middle of July, unless, indeed, this old-fashioned summer is something beyond our ken.

The Truthful Liar. By Mrs. David Ritchie. (Methuen & Co.)

THIS novel is well written, apart from occasional lapses in the direction of what is erroneously called "fine writing," which generally occur when one of the characters is left alone for a time; the style is clear, direct, and forcible. The characterization is not so good. Every one will grant that inconsistency is common enough in character, otherwise its study would develop into an exact science and lose three-quarters of its charm. Here, however, the unusual inconsistency, the unlooked-for change from one to the other extreme of the moral scale, becomes monstrous and unnatural, so constant is it. Thus we are shown a dean; at first, a cynical self-righteous scholar, with a contempt for women and an overweening sense of his own importance, who, without any reason whatever, turns all at once into an elderly archangel without wings, and that before his death. We are shown a woman of judgment, knowledge, parts, and, above all, humour, who, without any satisfactory reason, narrowly escapes falling a victim to a man so unattractive that the words "young blackguard" fail to express him. Although the reader might be pre-

pared to admit one or two such kaleidoscopic phenomena, taken all together they become too much of a good thing. If Mrs. Ritchie will content herself with the dissection of more ordinary mortals, with only an occasional monstrosity for contrast, her work will be well worth reading, for in some ways 'The Truthful Liar' is excellent.

Adventures of Gerard. By A. Conan Doyle. (Newnes.)

THE inventor of Sherlock Holmes has seldom given us anything better than the Gascon Brigadier. That gallant soldier by the "grain of folly in his bearing" never loses our respect, although we sometimes fear that he will "be the death of us," as did his English host. The author has added a small bibliography in his preface, and hopes that he will induce some readers to seek the fountains which have given him inspiration. As in our earlier account of him, the Brigadier is ever master of situations of the most complex and desperate character, and his efficiency in action is never impaired by his habit of reflecting on the heroic figure he cuts, and admiring his own presence of mind. In such a wealth of incident selection is difficult, but the ride to Minsk and the description of the rout at Waterloo are among the most vivid of the tragic scenes, and 'How the Brigadier slew the Fox' ("that assassin!"), in presence of Wellington and his astonished staff, perhaps marks the climax attained by the hero in cheery self-approbation.

Drinkers of Hemlock. By A. Stodart Walker. (Edinburgh, Morton.)

THIS is a singularly unequal book, and one tiring to read. It is like the composition of a clever and not over-wholesome schoolboy, rather than the work of a man who has already written much. Here is a specimen of the dialogue:—

"Where do all these people come from?" she asked.

"The population of the British Isles is forty millions," replied Woodburn.

"I accept the reproof. I wonder who the woman is with a face like Madame Récamier."

"She is Mrs. Chumley, a second-rate woman with a first-rate reputation."

"For what?"

"Her husband gave her too much rope, and she has skipped with it."

"Why do you laugh at your own jokes, Algy?" asked Lady Erskine.

"Because I've never heard them before, my dear."

"It was the woman's turn to acknowledge the aptness of the retort."

There are entire pages of this sort, and the person who had never heard his own jokes before was guilty of bad memory or restricted reading. The story is political, and deals exclusively with persons prominent in society. Whilst containing much that is in bad taste and tiresome, it also has some thoughtful passages.

CLASSICAL BOOKS.

PROF. W. R. HARDIE is very modest about his *Lectures on Classical Subjects* (Macmillan), in which, he hints, "the professional scholar" will not find much that is new. The 'Lectures' cover general fields, such as 'The

Supernatural' and 'The Language of Poetry,' in which special research and new conclusions are not so desirable as the statement of results for the ordinary reader. That somewhat exigent character ought to be pleased, for everything is said here in an attractive style which is rare among those who seek to popularize. Scholars will, we think, place the book beside Prof. Butcher's and F. W. H. Myers's essays on classical subjects while they mark a passage here and there for dissent or modification. This sort of book is much more valuable than the wild theories and quarrels which bring reputations for brilliancy. The author of 'Vetera Recentia' needs no such laurels, though they are well within his reach. With regard to the Fourth Eclogue of Virgil, we have long held the view, here mentioned as that of Prof. Franz Skutsch, that the divine infant was the expected child of Octavian and Scribonia. The language used would have been an offence if directed to any but imperial progeny. The first writer to break down these traditions of the Age of Gold was Lucretius, in his fifth book, which is Darwinian in its summary of evolution. Prof. Hardie has misadapted Tennyson on p. 158.

We are much interested to see a neat, well-printed little volume containing *The Octavius of Minucius*, freely translated by A. A. Brodribb (Bell), with an introduction. The looseness of the rendering does not permit comparison with the original, but we may say that the ease of Minucius, who is wonderfully Ciceronian for his age, is not lost. This "earliest extant defence of Christianity by a Latin writer" is a work of art, and is notable for its negative character, which Mr. Brodribb summarizes well. In these two points its author differs from Tertullian, who was much less stylish and more combative.

Études sur l'Ancienne Poésie Latine. Par H. de la Ville de Mirmont. (Paris, Fontemoing.)—This is a collection of lucid studies in the earliest Latin literature. They contain nothing essentially novel; that was not to be expected. The scanty remains of Livius Andronicus and the other writers with whom M. de Mirmont concerns himself have been wistfully scrutinized by a long line of scholars. The reader who casts only a glance over the pages of literary history turns with repugnance from the spectral figures of poets to whom time has been so unkind. But to the genuine student literary problems are none the less fascinating for being obscure, and the study of origins has a charm of its own. The stammering efforts of Nævius and others to speak in their own tongue after the fashion of the Greeks mark the beginning of a development in culture which has modified profoundly the history of civilization. For that reason, if for no other, scholars will never keep their hands from the poor fragments which are all that is left to us of writers who prepared the way for Plautus and Terence, for Virgil, for Catullus, for Cicero and Livy. M. de Mirmont achieves considerable success in describing clearly and attractively so much as criticism has been able to recover of a few of the earliest chapters in the history of Latin literature. He is sober and judicious, and particularly happy in obliterating the imaginative pictures with which some inquirers (often Frenchmen) have tried to decorate their dark subject. Yet the author is not free altogether from fantasies of his own, as when he speculates on the causes for the lack of an indigenous Latin literature, and finds them in such matters as the dryness of Italian mythology, the prosaic nature of early Italian wars as contrasted with the romantic siege of Troy, and the difficulty of agriculture for the Romans, owing to the unkindness of the soil. May we not remind

M. de Mirmont that Attica was λεπτόγλωσς, as Thucydides has it? There is in the book, also, a tendency to put forward a conjecture on one page and a few pages later to treat it as a certainty. Thus we pass from a "put" on p. 56 to an "on a vu" on p. 59. Of errors in detail there are not many. The essays in the volume are not all equal in merit. Those on the *satura* and *nenia* are almost too slight to appear side by side with the rest. The best is that on Lævius, whose destiny is one of the curiosities of literature. A competent critic, writing in 1825, doubted whether such an author had ever existed. Yet it is certain that he was a contemporary of Lucilius and a precursor in lyric poetry of Catullus. The first definite quotation from Lævius in existing literature is not older than the middle of the second century A.D. In ignoring Lævius, Catullus followed a curious and widespread Roman custom, from which he himself suffered at the hands of Horace. Ennius pretended to know nothing of Nævius and Livius Andronicus, and to have been the first to bring a poetic wreath from Helicon to Rome. Lucretius backed this boast, and himself claimed, not quite truthfully, to be traversing "a poetic path never trodden by any foot before." Even the late poet Manilius puts forward a like pretension at the outset of his poem.

Two distinctive features in *The Makers of Hellas*, by E. E. G. (Griffin & Co.), arrest attention, apart from the fact that it is a posthumous work. The seven hundred pages bear eloquent witness to the author's wide reading and love of sound learning. They are prefaced by an introduction from the pen of Principal Jevons, which confers a cachet of distinction on the whole. There is, at the same time, very clear evidence of an underlying purpose running through the book, though, as Dr. Jevons remarks, this purpose is hardly conveyed in the title. Dr. Jevons notes at the outset that the dominant thought and feeling of the book is religious. The prevailing tone is, indeed, Evangelical, and this is noticeable in many places, but particularly in the sections which deal with Plato's limits. The author's object is to insist on the all-sufficiency of the teaching of Christianity, and in so doing he tends to depreciate rather the philosophical and practical achievements of the greatest of the Greek thinkers. The legacy of Greek philosophy to the nations of the west of Europe has been inestimable, and we find the author more generous in the characterization of his foreword than he appears in other parts of the book. The fault, if it be a fault, is a necessary part of the purpose of the work; but we have not been able to escape an occasional feeling of incongruity for which the greater part of a bulky volume will hardly prepare the reader. For the work in the main we have nothing but praise, though the author probably attached least importance to that division of his labours which, in our view, has borne fruit likely to be of most general service and acceptance. Within these covers is a mine of information on all sorts of questions connected with the archaeology, the mythology, and the literature of ancient Greece. The index provided might be more complete. As it stands, however, it will meet the needs of the plain man who reads for general information, and takes but slight interest in the debatable questions of language, literature, and customs which lead to numerous digressions in the course of this historical inquiry.

With the qualifications to which we have referred, the book may be confidently recommended to a wide circle. Fully and carefully set out will be found the various influences of climate, soil, surroundings, and temperament which combined to foster that spirit of inquiry and experiment which is the most striking characteristic of early Hellenic history. Very clearly traced are the first

beginnings of corporate and civic life among the Hellenes, and the first outlines of that supreme work of art the Greek language. Vivid, finally, is the impression which we get from these pages of the extraordinarily rapid rise to maturity of Greek art and literature, and of the wonderful literary and artistic productiveness of that small corner of ancient Greece from which sprang the short-lived Athenian empire, established and directed by the inhabitants of a tiny territory whose total area was less than 740 miles, less than one-eighth of the acreage of the largest county in our own little island.

Paraphrases and Translations from the Greek, by the Earl of Cromer (Macmillan), are the work of one who has approached ancient Greek through modern, and speaks with engaging modesty of his attainments. We cannot say that the author has in the main preserved the simplicity which is rightly called "one of the many beauties of Greek poetry"; he seems, in fact, too apt to fall into modern conventions of language which are stale and unprofitable. Very often we find possibly suitable, but certainly otiose ideas introduced, which swell out the English lines. Here is a well-known epigram:—

Shipwrecked was I, but fear not thou to sail:
When we were lost, others rode out the gale.

That is clear, concise, and neat, and there are other things as good. But many of the versions give an indifferent idea of the Greek, though they credit Lord Cromer with a turn for epigram. The book is beautifully produced, and we hope that it will not be the last of the sort.

Mr. F. M. Cornford has printed a pamphlet on *The Cambridge Classical Course* (Cambridge, Heffer), which points the way, we think, to very sensible reform, though all its contentions are by no means proved.

JUVENILE LITERATURE.

MISS EMILY PEARSON FINNEMORE is a writer of some force, but she is not at her best in *A Man's Mirror* (Cassell), a love story long drawn out. The heroine, the fair and proud Elizabeth, loves and is beloved by a "melancholy boy," Edward Leigh, poet and tutor. Edward is penniless and never tells his love, and Elizabeth, for the sake of her family, marries a rich boor, one Ralph Farren. A hideous accident deprives Ralph of his sight, and the evil chance brings husband and wife together. The blind man has ambition, Elizabeth works with and for him, "she is eyes to him and heart and breath almost"; he enters Parliament, becomes a leader of men, and is on the high road to fame, when fate again interposes, and the hand which blinded him strikes him dead. Now this tale of Ralph and his wife Elizabeth has distinct dramatic possibilities, and if told with restraint might make a striking short story. But so many people flit about, and do and say so many things, that the central figures are obscured. The book is disappointing, but holds a promise of better things.

In *The Magic City* (Lawrence & Bullen) Miss Netta Syrett has produced a volume of pretty fairy stories which are mainly concerned with the dreams and fancies of imaginative children. The first chapters included in the title represent a little girl's notions of what such fair-sounding London names as Lavender Hill, Child's Hill, &c., should mean translated into reality by the help of a kind fairy. It is a graceful idea, and one that should find especial favour with small Londoners. The stories all have a genuinely poetic touch.

The City of Quest. By D. G. and L. S. M'Chesney. (Dent.)—The story of the prince and the minstrel, the man of action and the

man of dreams, each of whom has to find his own way through much suffering and discipline to his City of Quest, is a pretty allegory rather suggestive of a modern 'Pilgrim's Progress'; but if it is intended for children, the working out of the idea is at times too involved for their comprehension. The prince travels by the straight road, and after many adventures rescues the Lady Hertha, whose golden thread has led himself and the minstrel safely through their troubles, vanquishes his enemies, and re-enters into possession of his kingdom. The minstrel finds a less satisfactory conclusion, for his is "the city which evermore is sought," and to his wanderings there can be no finality. There are too many of his doggerel verses which do not enhance the poetical value of the letterpress.

The Religious Tract Society send us *Two Artillerymen*, by E. C. R. Woolcock; *John Wesley, the Man and his Mission*, by G. H. Pike; and *Champions of the Truth*, by various authors. The first illustrates well the advantages of soldiers' homes and the good work they do, though it would be more effective if it were less of a preachment. Wesley was, as the ordinary world is beginning to discover, a most interesting man; and the second volume, being a capable summary, should lead more readers to his remarkable 'Journal.' The accounts of Christian leaders in thought and action in the third book cover, we are glad to see, a wide range, including such different men as Tyndale, Knox, Bunyan, Reginald Heber, Whately, and Spurgeon. They are mostly brief and sensible.

The Japanese Fairy Book, compiled by Yei Theodora Ozaki (Constable), is a very clever and amusing collection of stories, in which birds, beasts, and fishes frequently play the part of hero or heroine, and are fully as interesting as the more usual prince or princess. There are princes and princesses also, and wicked stepmothers and uncles, and the usual kind or unkind fairy godmothers, and witches and wizards; but their setting is so entirely new, and so well described, that the reader will rise from the book feeling he knows a great deal more about Japanese ways of life and thought than he ever expected to do. Most of the stories teach kindness to those who are unprotected or in sickness or trouble—indeed, to everything possessed of life. We must not omit that they have been translated from the modern version written by Sadanami Sanjin, and that "the pictures were drawn by Mr. Kakuzo Fujiyama, a Tokio artist."

In *One Thousand Poems for Children* (Hutchinson) Mr. R. Ingpen has managed to include a great deal, and is to be commended for his catholicity of taste and sentiment. Some of the older collections of the sort contained ludicrously unsuitable matter. Mr. Ingpen has gone to old and new sources, and ought to please everybody on some page or other. He includes both Keats's 'La Belle Dame sans Merci' (who surely needs rather an adult apprehension), and that other ruthless lady who exclaimed,

I will—

I must have Frances whipped.

Herrick, Gay, the Lambs, W. B. Rands, and Emily Brontë are among interesting contributors, while eight illustrations are added after Reynolds.

Messrs. A. & C. Black send us *The Kinsfolk and Friends of Jesus*, a handsome volume by R. C. Gillie, which is well printed on an ample page, and provided with excellent illustrations. The author has experience as a writer for the young, and his book should be widely appreciated.

In *One Day*, by Edith Farmiloe (Grant Richards), plenty of things happen which give the artist an excellent chance to exhibit her

delightful talent for portraying little folk. They are not entirely pattern children, we are glad to see; indeed, some of them are all corners—non angeli, sed anguli—but they are always pleasing to look on.

A Little Brother to the Bear, and other Animal Studies, by William J. Long (Ginn), is a volume that deserves the widest circulation. Those who know Mr. Long's previous books will need no incitement to procure this; others should buy it as soon as possible, for the stories are admirably written and illustrated. The author has, by long and patient study, won to the very heart of the world of animals; he knows them as well as any man living, and we pity the child—or the man, for that matter—who is unable to delight in his lore. Writing from the other side of the water, Mr. Long is not yet so well known as he should be, but our own experience leads us to believe that, once read, his work keeps its hold.

The "Little Folks' Edition" of *Alice in Wonderland* and of *Through the Looking-Glass* (Macmillan) presents a continuous story which represents one-sixth of the complete books. We are glad to see these masterpieces, even truncated, instead of feeble imitations of them.

King Clo, by Harry A. James (Newnes), has merit both in text and illustrations, and would be a good story if it were devoid of the affectation in style which somewhat spoils it to our taste.

Mrs. Coxhead, in *New Cautionary Rhymes for Children* (Grant Richards), has imitated the moral glibness of Mrs. Turner tolerably. But she seems to admit that the penalties and advice freely mentioned do not apply to-day. She wishes to bring back old times—and is not that an adult velleity of which children know nothing?

Sparks from the Nursery Fire, by Sheila E. Braine (Simpkin & Marshall), is commended by the illustrations of Miss Mary Watson, which are both quaint and charming. The verse is not very sparkling, but will do.

In *The Grey Rabbit* (Wells Gardner) May Gladwin shows a pretty talent for pictures in red, black, and white. We do not like her narrative so well, and think that there is a little too much of it.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. FISHER UNWIN publishes *Labour and Protection*, a series of studies, edited by Mr. H. W. Massingham, which contains some interesting work upon the Free Trade side of the fiscal controversy. After an excellent preface by the editor, Mr. John Burns, M.P., writes on the political dangers of Protection, dealing with the chance of the corruption of Parliament; Mr. J. A. Hobson on the working-class view; Mr. G. J. Holyoake upon the old days, which he remembers; Mr. Thomas Lough, M.P., upon sugar, in respect of which he is competent; and Mrs. Vaughan Nash on the co-operative housewife, a matter with which she also is thoroughly fit to deal. Mr. George Barnes, secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, discusses the effect of Protection on the staple trades of the country. It is the opinion of Mr. Burns, endorsed by the editor, that the common people will not abandon the principles of Free Trade, under which it is alleged that public life has been purified and the lot of the working class improved. Mr. Burns is somewhat violent against the Trust, but we are inclined to think that the case against the Trust and the case against Protection are by no means the same, and we can conceive advocates of Free Trade who would fail to see the danger in the principle of the Trust which Mr. Burns discerns in it. At the same time, there can be no doubt that

both Protection and the Trust are specially exposed to risks of Parliamentary corruption, for in any matter in which vast monetary interests are at stake, and which depends in any degree upon Parliaments, it is clear that there is more or less risk of corrupt inducements being offered to members who can affect the matter. No one denies that Protection has led to corruption in Canada and in France. No one denies that Protection and Trusts have both assisted corruption in the United States. But it is asserted, we believe with truth, upon the other side in the controversy, that Germany under Protection has remained fairly free from Parliamentary corruption. In Mr. Lough's article there is the statement, of which some proof is offered, and which is interesting and comparatively new, that the distributors of articles are interested in favour of taxes upon those articles. The popular belief is to the contrary effect, and is supported by the fact that whenever it is proposed to put a tax upon an article in this country those engaged in its distribution resist the tax. Still, Mr. Lough's argument appears to be a sound one as far as it goes. He also maintains the general thesis that business men must look at these questions from the standpoint of their own interests, without sufficient regard for those of the community as a whole, and that the guardians of the general interest can only be the general population. Mr. Barnes rightly protests against the view that it is a sufficient answer to Mr. Chamberlain to point to our increased and increasing wealth. It may be added that it is a fatal policy for Free Traders, for it leads straight to a verdict against them on the first occasion when the prosperity of the country meets with serious check.

MR. FISHER UNWIN also sends us in two volumes a timely reprint of *The Political Writings of Richard Cobden*. Lord Welby's new preface deserved larger type; it is, like the reprint of the old prefaces, "crowded," and difficult to read.

Literary Landmarks of Oxford, by Laurence Hutton (Grant Richards), is the fruit of a six weeks' visit to that city by an American, put upon paper for the benefit of his countrymen. The literary associations of Oxford offer an excellent subject for agreeable gossip, and when illustrated, as here, by the charming drawings of Mr. Herbert Railton, will provide pleasant relaxation for a casual hour. More than this is hardly attempted. Mr. Hutton has had no difficulty in ascertaining, from the many books which have been written about Oxford, the principal literary characters who have been members of the University; and there is nothing very new or illuminating in his remarks about them, while the wit with which these remarks are spiced is of rather a thin order. A more individual note is given to the book by the attempt to discover the actual rooms in which the several celebrities lived; but here Mr. Hutton was almost invariably baffled by Oxford's ignorance about her own sons. On this point Mr. Hutton has a legitimate grievance. It is not very material, no doubt, to know what sets of rooms were inhabited by Hooker or Sir Thomas Browne, by Ruskin or Matthew Arnold; still it is likely to stimulate a wholly profitable hero-worship to let an undergraduate know in whose steps he is treading. But recollections as to rooms are evanescent, and must be fixed before the great man's contemporaries have disappeared; otherwise they are apt to be based on the interested imaginations of a college porter, as it is to be feared, is the case with some of the sites upon which visitors to Oxford spend their sentiment to-day. At Queen's the names of distinguished former occupants of rooms are recorded over their doors; and this is a practice which might be commended to the con-

sideration of other colleges. Mr. Hutton's list of literary landmarks is hardly complete; and it is particularly curious to find that Clarendon is omitted, who (after Bodley) has left the most conspicuous material landmark of all Oxford writers. One might have expected, too, some reference to Grocyn and Ken, of New College, to Gaisford, Pusey, and Liddon, of Christ Church; while Frank Buckland and his bear and monkey would have added a further picturesque feature to the account of the last-named house. More surprising still is it to find Swinburne omitted altogether, and William Morris just cursorily named as a painter in company with Burne-Jones. Browning cannot be claimed for Oxford, in spite of his honorary connexion with Balliol; but the presence of his manuscripts in the library of that college is a "literary landmark" that deserves notice. It may also be delicately suggested that it is not for its size that "the High" has been celebrated, so that a depreciatory comparison of it in this respect with that elegant thoroughfare Fifth Avenue in New York is rather beside the point. The present Rector of Lincoln does not spell his name "Murray," though it may be pronounced rather like it in America; and the late Warden of Merton was not "Broderick." Other spellings to which exception may be taken are "Withers" and "Connington"; while we are sorry to see the word "requisite" divided after the *q* at the end of a line on p. 235.

The Carlyle Country, by J. M. Sloan (Chapman & Hall), is so rich in illustrations that one's first impression is that the book has been "written up" to them. One has not read far before this impression is entirely dissipated. Mr. Sloan's book is a valuable addition to the literature on the subject. It presents a study of Carlyle and his family which is fresh and original at many points; and in regard to his early years and surroundings in Annandale, it supplements existing sources of information in several particulars of more or less general interest. The author has been over all the ground himself, and much of his information has been obtained at first hand. The main impression conveyed by his description of the Carlyle country is that Froude has painted that country in colours unwarrantably sombre. Carlyle spoke of Annandale as "a mildly picturesque country," and such it appears in Mr. Sloan's pages. To Froude, who had the slightest personal acquaintance with it, it was a starved and treeless waste. There might, of course, be excuses for Froude. He was cradled in the luxurious environment of a Devonshire rectory, reared in the lap of the aristocracy of the Anglican Church, and educated among all the refinements of wealth and the grand traditions of Eton and Oxford. Annandale would seem to him bleak and bare in comparison with the richer scenery of the South, and the miracle of Carlyle's ascent might easily stagger him by the contrast between Carlyle's achievement and the rude aspect of his early home, within and without. The matter may seem trifling, but it persists in Mr. Sloan's pages, and we should be doing him an injustice in not insisting on it. One of the most important sections of the book deals with the Carlyle family in bygone times. What Carlyle said of Scott he might have said of himself, that he was "intrinsically the old fighting Borderer of prior centuries." Mr. Sloan traces a connexion with the city of Carlisle which is probably fanciful, but his account of 'The Clan Carlyle' is on the whole as trustworthy as it is interesting. We regret to say that the author's diction is occasionally open to cavil. "Fond to employ" and "fond to quote" are instances of erratic usage. "Birrenswark on the shoulder of the hill of that ilk" suggests that Mr. Sloan has not mastered the mystery which surrounds this ill-used term. The

photographs and photogravures in the book, amounting in all to over a hundred, are beautifully reproduced.

My Adventures on the Australian Goldfields. By William Craig (Cassell & Co.).—This book forms a genuine and very interesting document, although its author knows little or nothing of the writer's craft. In his preface Mr. Craig says:—

"Although my mind has often gone back over the events which befell me on the Australian goldfields in the early fifties, I might never have set them down in writing but for the accident of my coming across an account of Capt. Melville the bush-ranger, in which, not by any means for the first time, the character of that singular man was so grossly misrepresented that little persuasion was needed to induce me to put on record my very different impressions. As I mused upon my meeting with him, other memories belonging to those distant days came crowding up, and these, too, I was tempted to record."

This preface is dated from Invercargill, New Zealand. Another famous person with whom Mr. Craig was brought into close personal contact during those adventurous days of the early gold rushes to Australia was Peter Lalor, who was perhaps the prime mover in the Eureka Stockade riot, and who subsequently, in despite of his wounds, lived to become Speaker of the Victorian Legislative Assembly. But the most interesting feature of this straightforward account is the description of the author's adventures as a prospector and digger on unknown and alluvial fields, where wardens and commissioners were not, and the safety of a man's life, as well as his gold, depended solely upon the strength of his arm and the patience and continuity of his watchfulness. Nine thousand convicts and ticket-of-leave men found their way into Victoria between 1852 and 1853, and many hundreds of escaped prisoners, fugitives from justice, and habitual criminals from other lands arrived there during the same period in different ships. The author's picture of the Bullarook Forest at this time shows a dark and horrible sort of Alsatia, in which almost innumerable murders were committed, and through which few could hope to win clear with any burden worth carrying. Naturally enough, Mr. Craig's sympathies are all with the pioneer miners, but there can be little doubt that British traditions in the matter of respect for constituted authority and fair play were marvellously well upheld by the majority of them in circumstances which would have led to anarchy and lynch-law in most parts of the world, and that those in authority at the time were guilty of want of tact and many indiscretions.

The Responsibilities of the Novelist, by Frank Norris (Grant Richards), contains close upon thirty short essays upon literary topics. The title of the book is that of the first, and is well chosen, for the reason that it strikes a note which runs all through the volume: 'The True Reward of the Novelist,' 'The Need of a Literary Conscience,' and similar titles, show the general trend of the writer's thought and attitude. It is a very readable and characteristic book, full of the strenuous and frank enthusiasm which marked all that the author did in life—of the faults which usually go with such temperaments as his was, and which are never on the niggard side and never paltry. Thus, in considering the responsibilities of the novelist, the author argues:—

"But the novelist to-day is the one who reaches the greatest audience. Right or wrong, the People turn to him the moment he speaks, and what he says they believe."

Yet later, in the heat of demonstrating that the retail bookseller of America is a literary dictator, he says:—

"Author, critic, analyst, and essayist may hug to themselves a delusive phantom of hope that they

are the moulders of public opinion, they and they alone," &c.

As a strenuous man must, he wrote generally as a partisan, and it may well be that he exaggerated somewhat the influence wielded nowadays by the popular novelist. But his contentions remain good and wholesome.

In a lively chapter on 'Little Books' old Isaac D'Israeli enters a protest against big volumes, as "a scarecrow to the hand and pocket of the student." He used to say that, had Solomon asked the Queen of Sheba to pick out a scholar from a group of unknown courtiers, she would have solved the puzzle by inquiring which amongst them carried a book in his pocket. So we are told in the 'Chronicle' that King Alfred bare ever a book in his bosom; so Shakspeare's Brutus, on the night before Philippi, drew a book from the pocket of his gown; so in the coat tail of Dibdin's bibliomaniac Lisardo bulged (Heaven help him!) a volume of Beloe's 'Anecdotes'; so Henri Murger's Colline dragged about in his paletot *sept ou huit volumes de haute philosophie*; so from the *uvinda vestimenta* of poor drowned Shelley fell out a dripping Æschylus. But modern needs displace the pocket volume; note-book, cigar case, card case, purse, kerchief, to be all accommodated in one integument, leave no spare repository for the Elzevir Virgil or Oxford Sophocles or diamond Walton's 'Angler' which we would gladly carry. Messrs. Bell have somewhat compressed these necessities by a series of 'Pocket-book Classics,' which, besides calendar and diary and ephemeral requisites of useful knowledge, offer space for some choice *libellus* in dainty form, compact of bulk and legible of type. They have wisely begun with "old popular Horace's" *Odes*, exquisitely printed at the Chiswick Press, the Latin text flanked by Conington's translation. This is probably the best available for Latinless readers; it is literal, and the metres are attractive to an English ear; though the gods forgot to make Conington poetical, and he is less happy than either Sir Theodore Martin or Lytton in copying the curious felicities which render Horace untranslatable. They propose to serve up in the same form Marcus Aurelius and 'In Memoriam,' with eclogues from Homer, Shakspeare, Browning, Goethe. They will not omit, we hope, Catullus, Bacon's 'Essays,' Milton's lyrics and 'Areopagitica,' Gray, and other classics. The idea is certainly capital, though the pocket-book might be more roomy, especially in the Diary.

John Addington Symonds, a Biography, by Horatio F. Brown, is now republished by Messrs. Smith & Elder in one volume. It records the life of a man whose memory will, as we said, probably survive his work. Symonds's remarkable personality was typical of much in the modern man of letters that wins our interest, though it can hardly secure our admiration. His was the intrusive, self-conscious, torturing *ego*, which is the bane of the moderns, yet bound up in much of their art.

We are glad to see a sixteenth edition of the *Bon Gaultier Ballads* (Blackwood), which is excellently printed and illustrated. Sir Theodore Martin writes an interesting preface of reminiscences, pointing out Aytoun's share in the collection. The 'Ballads' now approach the dignity of history, while their aptness of phrase and reference should keep them before lovers of banter.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. publish *On Circuit in Kafirland*, a bright little collection of reprints of articles, of which all, except the first, from Temple Bar, have appeared only in South Africa. Dr. Percival Laurence, the author, is President of the High Court of Griqualand, and was

an old friend of Cecil Rhodes, who is well sketched in a chapter. It seems that when he referred to "unctuous rectitude" it was of Sir Charles Russell, afterwards Lord Russell and Chief Justice, that Rhodes was thinking. Of "Fashoda" the author says, ".....should have prevented M. Hanotaux from committing a blunder which it took all the tact and statesmanship of M. Delcassé to repair." M. Hanotaux was, no doubt, no friend to this country, but he might reply that M. Delcassé ordered the departure of the first expedition to Fashoda, and boasted for years afterwards in the French Parliament that it was entirely his personal work.

The second series of M. James de Chamberrier's studies, *La Cour et la Société du Second Empire* (Paris, Perrin & Cie.), deal with literature and art, and include sketches of the lives and work of the French who wrote, acted, and sang between 1852 and 1870. Few are now alive except M. Ludovic Halévy, who, a clerk in the Ministry of State (Imperial household) in 1852, is in good health more than fifty-one years later. His 'Orphée aux Enfers' dates from 1858, and is still performed. The book helps the Bonapartist cause, if, indeed, there can be said to be one, purposely, though indirectly. We have often complained of the two most common mistakes in the names of distinguished living Frenchmen, "Clémenceau" for Clemenceau, and "Gallifet" for Gallifet. The second of these errors occurs in this volume, but only for the General, the name of the Marquise, his wife, being correctly printed.

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H. S. MERRIMAN.

WE much regret to notice the death of Mr. Hugh Stowell Scott, who was well known to letters as the novelist Henry Seton Merriman. As the author of books which showed excellent powers of narrative and good style Mr. Scott won himself a place in the forefront of English fiction, which he retained by work always considerable. He did not reach the highest rank, which belongs only to real distinction—one of the rarest of gifts; but he achieved his position and popularity by legitimate means, without advertising himself and without those concessions to vulgar taste which are unhappily becoming more common daily. In the series of novels which began with 'From One Generation to Another' (1892) he soon found himself, and continued to write steadily with advance of power, covering very various fields with equal versatility. He had sufficient humour to check a tendency to melodrama, and paid but little heed to the goddess of sentimentalism, who presides over the sale of latter-day novels. 'The Sowers' (1896) won, fairly enough, great repute and many readers, though it first introduced to prominent notice the rather self-conscious asides and reflections which became a feature of his recent work. Still this habit of moralizing did not seriously detract from the deserved success of 'Roden's Corner' (1898), a dexterous hit at company promoters, and 'The Isle of Unrest', a romantic story of Italian vendetta. 'In Kedar's Tents' (1897) and 'The Velvet Glove' (1901) showed that the author could draw a Spanish gentleman with truth and delicacy. 'The Vultures' (1902), a story of Poland, was as good a story as any that he made.

He was not a great artist, but he was an excellent novelist, who knew how to use the English language, and whose qualities, especially on the negative side, are worth the study of many more showy and less conscientious craftsmen. There is no one, to our knowledge, capable of filling his place, of writing quietly yet competently with the skill of the modern novelist, who ought to be "un homme du monde doublé d'un lettré," capable both of pathos and self-restraint, of romance and worldly wisdom.

NEW EVIDENCE ABOUT THE GOWRIE MYSTERY.

LAST August, while staying at Carlsruhe, I chanced to look through a printed catalogue of the manuscripts in the library of Wiesbaden, published in 1877 by A. von der Linde. On p. 133 of that catalogue (No. 77) there is mentioned a French manuscript entitled 'Borboniana,' with a brief summary of the contents. I understood that it must include some curious gossip, and accordingly, a week later, I took advantage of a rainy day at Wiesbaden to examine the 'Borboniana.'

The manuscript is a bulky quarto of 725 pp., neatly written and dated 1664. The title runs as follows:—

"Borboniana ou Singularitez remarquables prises des conversations de MM. Nicolas Bourbon et Guy Patin."

A short introduction insists on the confidential character of the contents:—

"Mon fils, je parle à vous comme si c'était ici mon testament. Tous ces cahiers que vous voyez ici sont un farrago, un pot pourri, et un ramas sans aucun ordre de quantité de choses fort différentes, que j'ai apprises et ouï dire des uns et des autres; mais la plus grande part vient de la conversation que j'ai eue durant quelques années cum viro clarissimo et doctissimo Nicolao Borbonio dans l'Oratoire de Paris."

I next transcribe the *explicit* on p. 725:—

"Finis miscelliariorum ex adversariis Guidonis Patini exscriptorum Parisiis sub initium anni 1664."

Guy Patin is too well known to need a biography. Nicolas Bourbon (1574-1644) was a member of the French Academy, and became an Oratorian about 1622, after having been a teacher of humanities in several colleges. He was esteemed as a clever writer of Latin verses, and edited the first book of Cyrillus, 'Adversus Julianum' (1619).

The existence of one or several manuscripts of the Borboniana may be traced in some books about books; a copy was sold in Paris about 1819. As early as 1659 Guy Patin, in a letter to Cousin, the king's doctor, mentions his "Borboniana, Grotiana et Naudæana," and adds that they are amusing to peruse:—

"Ces manuscrits prennent les gens par le nez et les empêchent de devenir de grands sots."—
 'Lettres Choies de Guy Patin,' La Haye, 1715, tome i. p. 408.

But, as far as I can see, the Borboniana have remained unedited to this day.

The Wiesbaden manuscript contains a great deal of small talk and anecdotes about the great scholars of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, many coarse attacks on the Jesuits, free utterances about religious matters, besides a farrago of notes and aphorisms relating to all imaginable people, from the Greek classics to Joan of Arc, and French and foreign kings and queens. If published, the book might not find many readers, but the editor would certainly not have a dull task; he would get heaps of fun, and not too much rubbish.

While looking through the manuscript I hit on a passage which seemed to be interesting, and which struck me the more as I had just been reading reviews of Mr. Andrew Lang's recent work on the Gowrie mystery (*Athenæum*, 1902, ii. pp. 750, 826, 857; *Academy*, 1902, ii. p. 413). So I copied the more significant lines, and sent a translation of them to my old friend Prof. Ramsay in Aberdeen, begging him to inquire from a competent colleague if the evidence thus afforded was new. He answered in the affirmative; so I subjoin my copy, which, however, is somewhat of an extract. The original text is longer, and will have to be reproduced entirely if it seems worth a discussion:—

"Le président de Thou, tome iii, raconte avec beaucoup de peine et assez d'obscurité comme Jacques VI., roi d'Ecosse, échappa heureusement à un grand danger, l'an 1600 le 5 août, dans la maison des comtes de Gaure (*Gowrie*), qui le voulaient massacrer sous ombre de lui faire voir un homme qui avait un grand trésor, lequel crut que c'était de l'or et de l'argent que les Jésuites avaient fait passer en Ecosse afin d'y exciter quelque nouvelle sédition, comme le bruit en avait déjà couru d'autres fois. Matthieu en son histoire en dit autant et en a cru le même; mais les bonnes gens n'en ont pas dit la vérité, ils ont écrit pour histoire la bourde que le roi d'Ecosse en fit courir. Fieurus, qui était un homme qui savait tout, m'a autrefois assuré que toute cette narration était une pure fable inventée par le roi d'Ecosse, qui, sous ombre d'être las de la chasse, s'en alla dîner à la maison de ce Comte de Gaure, lequel il

* Patin goes on to say that his son must keep that manuscript for himself, for fear of getting into trouble with the Jesuits, who are more than once violently attacked.

haïssait mortellement, et le fit tuer dans sa chambre, à cause que le dit Comte de Gaure entretenait la reine d'Ecosse sa femme; et, pour couvrir cet homicide, fit courir le bruit que les deux frères l'avaient voulu massacrer. Cette reine d'Ecosse, laquelle a depuis été reine d'Angleterre et mère de Charles I^{er}, était fille du roi de Danemark; c'était une grande p...n, qui mettait tout le monde en besogne et payait fort bien ses ouvriers. Un nommé Hugon, fils d'un fourbisseur de Moulins, revint de ce pays-là riche de 200,000 écus, qu'il avait gagnés à ce jeu de l'un sur l'autre."

I know nothing about Hugon, nor can I test the authority of Filenus. But one thing is pretty generally admitted: that the story of the murder, as related several weeks after the event by King James, is a concoction of impossibilities and falsehoods. So perhaps Filenus and his confidant Prof. Bourbon deserve a hearing. *Videant peritiores.*

SALOMON REINACH,
Membre de l'Institut.

OXYRHYNCHUS PAPYRI.

Alexandria, November 7th, 1903.

In your article on the Oxyrhynchus Papyri (October 24th, 1903) you have some very justifiable doubts about the rendering of the words *ἐν ἀγυῇ*. May I suggest the reading *ἐν ὑγείᾳ*—in good health? It seems perfectly reasonable for a man who is dictating or writing his will to add "in good health" after stating that he is "in his right mind." E. DELTAY.

** The suggestion does not seem to us satisfactory, because (1) on the analogy of *νομὴν καὶ φρονεῖν* in the earlier will formula the testator would probably say *ὑγιαίνων*—being in health; (2) there is an analogy in certain Roman documents of late date, declared to be made *in plano*, which seems a parallel to *ἐν ἀγυῇ*; (3) we even now have contracts of which the publicity is thought highly important, e.g., marriages, where we see "on the 5th inst. in St. George's Church," and if this detail and the name of the officiating cleric were omitted, there would be suspicion that there was some reason for the omission. The phrase, therefore, is probably a mere assertion of the publicity of the contract. Officials in Greece and Egypt worked in the open air after a fashion wholly foreign to modern habits.

SALE.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold last week the following books: Greek Coins in the British Museum, 12 vols., 1873-92, 7l. 5s. Ackermann's Oxford, 2 vols., 1814, 14l. 7s. 6d.; Cambridge, 2 vols., 1815, 10l. 5s.; Winchester and other Colleges, 1816, 18l. 15s. Beaumont and Fletcher, by Dyce, 11 vols., 1843-6, 10l. 2s. 6d. Bentley's Miscellany, 64 vols., 1827-69, 16l. 10s. English Spy, 2 vols., 1825-6, 21l. Freeman's Norman Conquest and other works, 12 vols., 1877-86, 16l. Marguerite de Navarre, Heptameron, 3 vols., 1780-1, 10l. 10s. Harriette Wilson's Memoirs, plates, 9 vols., 1831, 10l. 12s. 6d. Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica, 8 vols., 1780-90, 10l. 5s. Dugdale's Monasticon, 8 vols., 1817-30, 15l. 15s. Hasted's Kent, 4 vols., 1778-99, 19l. 5s. Malton's Views of Dublin, coloured, 1794, 18l. 15s. The Ibis, 1859-1903, 60l. Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum, 37 vols., 32l. Buller's Birds of New Zealand, 7l. 15s. Lilford's Birds, 7 vols., 1891-7, 63l. Dresser's Birds of Europe, 9 vols., 1871-96, 61l. Gould's Birds of Great Britain, 5 vols., 1873, 58l.; Birds of Asia, 7 vols., 1850-83, 75l. Curtis's British Entomology, 8 vols., 1823-40, 12l. Sowerby's English Botany, 36 vols., 1790-4, 18l. 15s.; English Fungi, 3 vols., 1797-1803, 10l. Meyer's British Birds, 7 vols., 1857, 9l. 10s. Cabinet de Poullain, 1781, 12l. Claude's Liber Veritatis, 3 vols., 1789, 8l. 10s. Dallaway's Sussex, 3 vols., 1815-32, 25l. 10s. Manning and Bray's Surrey, 3 vols., 1804-14, 10l. 5s.

Ormerod's Cheshire, large paper, 3 vols., 1819, 8l. 5s. Hennepin's Discovery in America, 1698, 11l. 10s. Ackermann's Microcosm of London, 3 vols., 1811, 19l. Hayley's Life of Romney, 1809, 6l. 15s. Rowlandson's Loyal Volunteers of London, Ackermann, n.d., 25l. 5s. Cramer, Papillons Exotiques, 9 vols., 1779-91, 12l. 5s. Hewitson's Exotic Butterflies, 5 vols., 19l.

Literary Gossip.

DR. MONCURE CONWAY has completed a record on which he has been engaged for some years, and which will probably be entitled 'Autobiography: Memories, Travels, and Experiences of Moncure Daniel Conway.' It should be of high interest, since the author has had a varied career on both sides of the Atlantic. He has edited at least two American papers, lectured gratuitously for the emancipation of slaves, and been a correspondent in the Franco-Prussian War. Further, he is a distinguished collector of pictures and pamphlets, and has figured prominently both in the English and American pulpit. The history of his friendships alone would make a remarkable book.

'LEGAL T LEAVES,' being a lawyer's tales out of school, is the title of a forthcoming volume by Mr. Edward F. Turner, in which he presents a number of stories, pathetic and humorous, depicting the lives of lawyers and their dependents, together with some skits upon legal procedure and phraseology. The work will be published by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. on December 10th.

PROF. GOLDWIN SMITH will contribute an introduction to the English translation of M. Émile Boutmy's 'Essai d'une Psychologie Politique du Peuple Anglais au XIX^e Siècle.' The work of translation has been performed by Mr. E. English, and the volume will be published by Mr. Fisher Unwin under the title of 'The English People: a Study of its Political Psychology.'

MESSRS. HARPER & BROTHERS will publish early next month a work on the conflict of the various national interests in the Far East, by the Hon. Albert J. Beveridge, United States Senator from Indiana. The work is entitled 'The Russian Advance,' although the parallel progress of Germany is also reviewed. Senator Beveridge writes from first-hand knowledge, having made an extended tour through China, Japan, Siberia, and European Russia, in which he studied peoples and methods. His observations on the development of Russian and German influence deserve the attention of traders of his own country and England, and he is unsparing in his criticisms of the apparent apathy of both the Anglo-Saxon powers in relation to the vast political and commercial problems of Asia. A timely portion of his work is devoted to the reasons for and against concluding that war between Russia and Japan is inevitable.

A VOLUME of 'Cambridge Theological Essays' is in preparation, and will be published by Messrs. Macmillan. The essays will be contributed by Cambridge residents, and a few other graduates in touch with the life and thought of the University. The book will represent the views of those responsible for the theological teaching of Cambridge upon some of the more important questions of the day.

MR. GRANT RICHARDS has undertaken to publish a series of volumes of "Great French Preachers," by the Rev. C. H. Brooke, supplying a good English rendering of these classics. These sermons may fairly be described as literature. Six volumes are contemplated, the first being for Lent and Holy Week; the second for Advent and Christmas; the third volume will consist of famous funeral orations; the fourth is for Easter and Whitsuntide; the fifth for Trinity; and the last is miscellaneous. Former volumes have been published in a pocket edition.

THE December number of the *National Review* will contain a special supplement in continuation of 'The Economics of Empire,' by the assistant editor, that appeared in September. Sir Leslie Stephen continues his 'Early Impressions,' dealing this month with editing. The Hon. E. Lyttelton discusses 'Progress in Education'; Mr. C. A. Whitmore, M.P., pleads for closer union with the colonies; and there is an important article on 'Social Democracy in Germany,' by Herr Georg von Vollmar, a member of the Reichstag.

MR. HENRY HARLAND's new book, which is entitled 'My Friend Prospero,' will be published by Mr. John Lane early in January next.

MR. C. H. ST. JOHN HORNEY, from whose private press at Chelsea a beautiful edition of Horace has just been issued, has been appointed to succeed the late Robert Proctor as trustee of the estate of William Morris.

MESSRS. MACLEHOSE, of Glasgow, have in the press a collection of 'Eighteenth-Century Essays on Shakespeare,' edited by Mr. D. Nichol Smith. The object of the editor is to show that English critical appreciation of Shakespeare did not, as is generally supposed, begin with Hazlitt and Coleridge. In all nine essays will be reprinted, arranged chronologically, from Rowe's, in 1709, to Morgan's, in 1777. Most of them have not been reprinted for at least eighty years.

MR. MAGNUS MACLEAN, who for three sessions held the appointment of Celtic Lecturer at Glasgow University, has been succeeded by Prof. Kuno Meyer, of Liverpool. Dr. Meyer was born at Hamburg in 1858, and took up the study of Irish and Welsh at Leipzig University. His published works are mostly in the domain of Irish literature. The subject of his Glasgow lectures will be 'The Celtic Church of Great Britain and Ireland.' Mr. Magnus Maclean's third course of lectures will be published shortly by Messrs. Blackie under the title of 'The Literature of the Highlands.'

MR. W. P. JAMES, in the *St. James's Gazette*, hopes that "Mr. Symons will not think it necessary to bring an action for libel against the *Athenæum*" because "that excellent journal described Mr. Symons last week [Nov. 14th] as 'a sort of humourless Walkley.'" It is only Mr. James's fun, of course, to take a phrase out of its context, but we hope that Mr. Walkley "will not think it necessary to bring an action for libel" against the *St. James's Gazette*. Yet "the provocation must be considerable."

THE whole edition of the *Eragny Press 'Aroepagitica'* (with the exception of the

ellum copies) was destroyed by fire at the printers' last Monday. It will be reprinted, as far as the blocks will stand, when the 'Ishtah,' now in hand, is finished. Messrs. A. & C. Black have also lost a good many copies of 'Who's Who' in the same conflagration.

MR. BERNARD CAPES writes concerning our notice of 'The Secret in the Hill':—

"I suppose I am fairly justified in assuming, from a line or two in your notice of my story 'Our boy opens at nine or thereabouts, and by the end of the book, which covers only a few months, is talking like an academic adult'. That your reviewer has trusted to his imagination to supply the defects in mine—in short, and bluntly, that he has criticized my book without reading it. 'Our boy,' he had only to read a third of the way through to discover, 'takes up the tale' at near sixteen; and the whole action of the story covers eight years. Your reviewer really makes his own 'point of bewilderment.'"

We regret the error into which we slipped in criticizing Mr. Capes's chronology. But our objection holds that the style is too fantastic for the hero's years. This criticism might be made about many romantic narratives in the first person, and applies, for example, to 'Treasure Island.' Mr. Capes's suggestion that his novel was not read by the reviewer is quite unworthy of him.

At the last monthly meeting of the Board of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, Mr. C. J. Longman in the chair, the sum of 93l. 8s. 4d. was voted for the relief of fifty-five members and widows of members; one new member was elected, and five fresh applications for membership were received.

The dinner to Mr. Faux on Tuesday next is being well supported, between seventy and eighty publishers having arranged to be present. Tickets may still be obtained of Mr. R. B. Marston.

The old question of a National Library for Scotland was revived by Prof. Lodge in an address delivered last week to the Glasgow University Historical Society. The question is not exactly pressing. There is always the Advocates' Library, in Edinburgh, to which access can be had even more freely than to the British Museum Library. So long ago as 1868 William Chambers wrote that if the Advocates' Library were closed to public investigation his firm would probably have to remove to London. By its copyright privilege the Advocates' Library has amassed a magnificent collection of British literature, and except that a private body would be relieved of the cost of its upkeep, its conversion into a national library would not materially affect its interests or those of literary workers.

MESSRS. GEORGE BARRIE & SONS, of Philadelphia, announce "the first definitive, authoritative, inclusive, narrative History of North America." The work ranges in territory from the Isthmus of Panama to the furthest north; and, in time, from the prehistoric period to the present date. Twenty volumes are in preparation, written by various hands under the direction of an editor-in-chief, each being complete in itself. Prof. G. C. Lee, the editor, is to have free choice in the selection of advisers,

editors, and authors, and the whole scheme seems very promising.

We congratulate the veteran professor, Gaston Boissier, on his eightieth birthday, which has been celebrated by a collection of articles by more than seventy scholars in his honour. The list of contributors opens with the names of Mommsen and Gaston Paris, and includes those of Robinson Ellis, F. Haverfield, and W. M. Lindsay. We hope that the professor will yet give us more books as lively as his 'Cicéron et ses Amis' and as erudite as his 'La Fin du Paganisme.'

THE Paris Musée de l'Armée has just obtained a most interesting collection of the proclamations of the Government of the Défense Nationale, issued during the war of 1870. These placards, which were printed at Bordeaux during the sittings of the Provisional Government, were posted up in all the French communes, and were the official "intelligence" of the progress of the war. One of these bears the signature of Gambetta.

FEW writers have displayed a profounder knowledge of German agrarian conditions than the novelist Wilhelm von Polenz, whose death is announced in his forty-third year, and his three most important novels—'Der Pfarrer von Breitendorf,' 'Der Büttnerbauer,' and 'Der Grabenjäger'—give a striking picture of the East Prussian farmer and his struggle against modern innovations.

THE death in his sixty-sixth year is announced of the well-known poet Richard Schmidt-Cabanis, who was for many years on the editorial staff of *Ullk*. He excelled in rendering the humour and the dialect of Berlin, and some of his poems enjoyed such popularity that they were frequently reprinted without his name and permission.

RECENT Parliamentary Papers include the Annual Report of the Local Government Board, 1902-1903 (4s. 8d.), which contains nothing of special interest this year; Report on Technical Instruction in Germany—Building and Engineering Trades' Schools (3½d.); and Regulations relating to the Royal College of Science, the Royal College of Art, and Museums under the Board of Education (6d.). The last contains examination papers.

SCIENCE

Man's Place in the Universe: a Study of the Results of Scientific Research in relation to the Unity or Plurality of Worlds. By Alfred R. Wallace. (Chapman & Hall.)

DR. WALLACE stands in the first rank of scientific naturalists, and is also well known as an acute, though not always sound, thinker and writer on social and economic questions. Few comparatively small books give such an impression of breadth of knowledge and sagacity of view as his on 'The Wonderful Century.' But it is no part of our duty now to discuss the preceding works of our author, who in the eightieth year of his age has produced the one before us. It has led to great searchings of heart amongst those versed in astronomy, a science to which the author has not devoted himself as a specialist, though he has endeavoured to keep abreast with the greatly increased

knowledge acquired in recent years, which, as the President of the Royal Astronomical Society remarks in his 'Modern Astronomy,' amounts to nothing less than a revolution. The work before us is an enlargement of articles which had previously appeared and been much commented on by some of our leading astronomers, so that in thus laying his ideas before the world in permanent form the author has been able to allude to criticisms passed upon them, and to some extent to rebut these. The question is this: Man, we know, occupies an altogether unique position in the terrestrial globe which he inhabits in common with a vast number of other living creatures and organisms; is there any reason to suppose that it is otherwise in some of the innumerable bodies moving in space with which modern astronomy has made us acquainted?

Now not only has the invention, and still more the improvement, of the telescope brought within our ken an enormously increased number of these bodies; but until it was first applied to the heavens, now very nearly 300 years ago, we may be said to have known nothing whatever of the surfaces of the "other worlds," as it is now customary to call them. The sun and the moon are the only bodies which present sensible discs to the naked eye; some few spots are occasionally thus visible in the former when its dazzling brightness is obscured by thin cloud or mist; and the streaked surface of the latter when near the full was a subject of enigma to ancient philosophers. But of the planets, which present in several aspects so much more striking an analogy to our own globe, already recognized in respect to its motions as one of them, nothing was known until the optic tube exhibited their discs and revealed the fact that several of them, at any rate, possessed atmospheres and inequalities of surface, and rotated on axes inclined, as that of our earth is, to the planes of their orbits round the sun. With the ascertainment of this fact, the probability did not fail to occur to many minds that the planets resembling our own dwelling-place in so many circumstances might also resemble it in being scenes of life, and perhaps, to carry the analogy still further, of intellectual life. This view was expressed very positively and attractively by Fontenelle in his 'Entretiens sur la Pluralité des Mondes,' which appeared in 1686; and many astronomers of eminence in the eighteenth century, including Sir William Herschel, extended this view, which we now know to be untenable, to the central body of the system, and in their "benevolence" (to use Miss Clerke's expression) tenanted the sun also with inhabitants—beings who, it might be supposed, were of nobler race than ourselves. Increased knowledge of physics and the laws of heat has dissipated this idea; closer study of the moon has shown that her surface is totally, or very nearly so, destitute of either air or water, so that it can hardly be the abode of life, unless, indeed, of a very low order, in the lowest parts, where a small degree of moisture may possibly exist.

As regards, then, our solar system, the question of habitability refers chiefly to the planets, or rather to some of

them. But a detailed examination of the conditions obtaining on these renders the matter a much more doubtful one than superficial reasoners might imagine. The present writer well remembers, when not much more than a youth, meeting the then Plumian Professor at Cambridge, and venturing to ask him whether he did not agree in thinking that the stars were inhabited. The smiling answer was: "Well, the Master of Trinity College thinks otherwise; so what are we to say?" The allusion thus expressed was to the 'Essay on the Plurality of Worlds,' then a new book, which, though published anonymously, was known to be by Whewell. Dr. Wallace makes much reference to this work, also to Sir David Brewster's 'More Worlds than One,' as well as to the writings of Proctor and others.

Of course the matter assumes a different complexion when we extend our excursions "through the blue infinite," and speculate on what obtains in other systems far, far beyond our own. Of these we have a much slighter knowledge; we know, indeed, something, by the aid of the spectroscope, of their internal constitution, but we can see nothing of their surfaces, even the telescopic discs being spurious, and, moreover, we know that if there are opaque bodies revolving round the distant stars which must resemble our sun in being self-luminous, they would be invisible to us, as reflected light could not penetrate to such enormous distances. It is true that the analogy of opaque bodies moving round luminous ones does not always hold; we have evidence from their motions that some luminaries are actually moving round dark, or nearly dark, companions; but in such cases the central body must still be the largest, on Lord Dunsyre's principle that a dog wags his tail because he is bigger than the tail. Dr. Wallace makes great account of the fact that our sun is near the centre of the Milky Way, the fundamental position of which in the great universe of stars is more fully acknowledged the more it is studied. It is chiefly in view of the central position of our sun, and whether, if it were so placed, it could continue to be, consistently with the known fact of its own motion, that the author's astronomical critics have contested his conclusions. His reply is that this solar motion is probably not continuously onward, but of the nature of some unknown revolution. Science is not yet, and perhaps never will be, in a position to answer dogmatically on such a question as this; but we can safely say that Dr. Wallace's book bears the stamp of his great intellect; that it will be read with much interest; and that whoever wishes to form an opinion on the matter discussed will find as full materials for doing so as any existing work can offer.

The conclusions to which the author has come, and for which he claims that the probabilities are "enormous," are (1) that no other planet in the solar system is inhabited or habitable, (2) that the probabilities are almost as great against any other sun possessing inhabited planets, and (3) that the nearly central position of our sun is probably permanent, and has been specially favourable, perhaps absolutely essential, to life-development on the earth.

"These conclusions depend upon the combination of a large number of special conditions, each of which must be in definite relation to many of the others, and must all have persisted simultaneously during enormous periods of time. The weight to be given to this kind of reasoning depends upon a full and fair consideration of the whole evidence as I have endeavoured to present it in the last seven chapters of this book."

When we come to combinations of conditions relating to enormous numbers of bodies and systems, it is evident that our reasonings are not exactly based upon *terra firma*. The earlier chapters in the book give an interesting and popular brief account of those branches of astronomy which bear principally upon the subject under discussion. At the end of all are some general observations on the almost unthinkable problems raised by ideas of infinity.

The book is clearly and carefully printed, and is provided with an index. We have noticed very few *errata*. Argelander, on p. 60, appears as "Agrelander," and at p. 89 Sir John Herschel's name appears with a superfluous "l." Altogether 'Man's Place in the Universe' cannot fail to be read with great pleasure and profit. Much, of course, is speculation, but many are the side-lights thrown upon present matters of discussion and pending problems in astronomy.

SIR HERBERT MAXWELL is a most prolific and very versatile writer. He has dealt with biography, history—natural and otherwise—sport in many forms, both as author and as editor, whilst his articles in magazines are innumerable. Indeed, one can only marvel at the continued flow, and wonder how time is found for so much literary work. He is evidently a quick observer, and he loses no time in setting forth his impressions in easy conversational style. They are pleasant to read, and full of stimulating suggestion. These reflections occur on reading the third series of his *Memories of the Months* (Arnold), which will, no doubt, be as well received by the public as the two former series. They will be found, as the author hopes, "redolent of the greenwood, the hillside and its falling floods." A few of the papers have appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*, but the greater number are new, and treat *de omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis*.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

AMONG recent communications to the Society of Anthropology of Paris are several by M. Émile Rivière, dealing with the engraved and painted walls of the cave of La Mouthe (Dordogne), discovered in August, 1902, representing animal figures, coloured with peroxide of iron and manganese; with shell ornaments; with the discovery of a Gallo-Roman necropolis at Paris in February and March last, which he has also made the subject of a communication to the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres, and of a second note, recording subsequent finds, including an object of bone or ivory, which seems to have served the purpose of a tally; and with a leaden ring, ornamented with a heart, of the fourteenth century, in comparison with a *châtelaine*, bearing a like ornament, of the eighteenth century. The last-named communication is in illustration of a previous paper by Dr. Marcel Baudouin, on the subject of Vendéan hearts. Emblems of this kind have at various times been circulated for political purposes, and their use on brooches and rings dates back to the

Gallo-Roman period, if not earlier. M. Rivière communicated other papers on the subject of his explorations to the Montauban Congress of the French Association for the Advancement of the Sciences.

At the meeting of the Society of Anthropology of Paris on July 2nd M. Thieullen made a communication, which he has since published independently, on the discovery of relics of the mammoth and the reindeer, in the course of the same excavations which furnished the relics of a Gallo-Roman necropolis described by M. Rivière. At 70 mm. below the vegetable soil he found a number of neolithic instruments. At a depth of 5 metres he found a lower jaw of the mammoth in perfect preservation, and some metres lower a jaw of reindeer. He also discovered many hundreds of the rudimentary instruments which appear to him to bear evidence of human workmanship. All these objects have been deposited in the Galleries of Mineralogy at the Museum of Paris, under the care of Prof. Stanislas Meunier. Some typical ones were exhibited at the reading of the paper. Prof. Meunier himself addressed to the monthly meeting of the naturalists of the museum in February some forcible observations on the subject.

The Anthropological Section of the Southport meeting of the British Association was so well supplied with papers that it had to sit on the final Wednesday, and even then had to take some papers as read. The meetings of the Section were well attended, and on some occasions crowded. Prof. Johnson Symington, in his presidential address, well said that it is generally admitted that, during the nineteen years since anthropology has attained the dignity of being awarded a special and independent section in the Association, the valuable nature of many of the contributions, the vigour of the discussions, and the large attendance of members, have amply justified the establishment and continued existence of the Section. The subject of the address was some problems arising from the variations in the development of the skull and the brain. That, and some papers on anthropography, including one by Prof. Lombroso on the most recent discoveries of criminal anthropology, occupied the first day of the sectional meeting. The Friday morning was allotted to papers on prehistoric and Roman archaeology; the Monday to general ethnography; the Tuesday to Argean archaeology; and the Friday and Tuesday afternoons to Egyptian archaeology.

The Childhood Society has arranged for its fourteenth course of public lectures to be given at 72, Margaret Street, W., on Thursday evenings. The first of the course was delivered on October 29th, by Mr. A. W. Newton, on 'Psychology and Education.' Dr. Shuttleworth presided. On November 12th Mr. R. D. Pedley lectured on 'Healthy Dentition and its Importance in Child Life.' Next Thursday Dr. A. B. Kingsford will lecture on 'Nutrition and Education'; and on December 10th Dr. G. F. Still on 'Moral Defects in Children.' Abstracts of some of the lectures delivered in previous courses have been published by the Society in its annual reports.

SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Nov. 25.—Mr. E. W. Brabrook, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. Richard Garnett read a paper on the date and authorship of the 'Treatise on the Sublime' attributed to Longinus. The object of the paper was the investigation of the question whether the celebrated 'Treatise on the Sublime' could be rightly attributed to Dionysius Longinus, the counsellor of Zenobia, and, if this supposition should appear untenable, the assignment of a probable date. The writer, while admitting that the general tenor and spirit of the treatise were fully in harmony with the character of Longinus, as depicted by history, felt compelled to agree with the majority of modern critics that the characteristics of the author's period, as

described by himself, could not be reconciled with those of the age of Longinus. They seemed rather to indicate the early part of the second century. This conclusion would be strengthened if the Terentianus to whom the treatise is inscribed could be identified with the Latin poet Terentianus Maurus. Prof. Rhys Roberts, the translator of Longinus, evidently inclined to this view, but seemed to have been deterred from pressing it by the opinion of Lechmann and Teuffel that Terentianus belonged to the third century. The speaker, on the other hand, thought it could be almost proved that Terentianus flourished under Hadrian. If the name of the writer of the treatise was really Dionysius, he might not improbably be Dionysius of Miletus.—A discussion followed, in which Dr. Todhunter, Dr. Phené, Mr. E. Gilbert Highton, and Mr. P. W. Ames took part.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Nov. 18.—Dr. W. de Gray Birch, Treasurer, in the chair.—Mr. Patrick announced that at the Council meeting that afternoon thirty-four new Members had been elected, the result of the Sheffield Congress in August and of the discoveries made by Mr. W. J. Nichols at the "caves" and "dene holes" at Chislehurst.—Mr. C. H. Compton drew attention to various interesting recent archaeological discoveries, including the Roman villa at Upton Pines, Dorsetshire (which contains some fine pavements), and the fragment of the Roman wall of London found during the excavations on the site of the new Sessions House in the Old Bailey. Mr. Compton also read some extracts from the registers of the parish church of Chesham, which is a fourteenth-century building well restored by the late Sir Gilbert Scott. On the wall of the south aisle is an old painting of St. Christopher. He also exhibited several good photographs of the fine roof of the nave of South Creak Church, Norfolk.—The Rev. H. J. D. Astley described for Mr. Nichols an exhibition of finds recently made at Chislehurst in the close vicinity of the "caves," extending from prehistoric to modern times. They consist of a palæolithic flint implement resembling a scraper, a flint ball for pounding grain, some fragments of Roman pottery, Samian and Upchurch, and a number of gun-flints fabricated in 1800. Mr. Astley commented on the discoveries made at Delphi on the site of the Temple of Apollo, which prove the Ionic character of the building; and on the recent discoveries of Messrs. Hunt and Grenfell in the Fayum, which included some more papyrus fragments of hitherto unknown "Logia" of our Lord. He also exhibited a series of nearly 100 photographic reproductions (two reproduced in the original colours) of portraits discovered some years ago by Herr Theodor Graf in graves of the Ptolemaic period in the Fayum. Some of these Herr Graf believes he has identified by the aid of coins, medals, and busts.—Dr. Birch expressed some doubts as to the identification, but apart from this the series is one of very considerable interest, from the lifelike character of the portraits, one or two of the younger women being especially beautiful and almost modern-looking. Altogether we have here speaking likenesses of men and women who lived more than 2,000 years ago, and Herr Graf will meet with a warm welcome if, as he proposes, he should bring the original portraits to London.—Mr. Patrick read, on behalf of Mr. J. W. MacMichael, a paper dealing with 'The Colour of the Sky in the Symbolism of Ancient Art and Folk-lore,' a very interesting subject, treated at considerable length with many references.

NUMISMATIC.—Nov. 19.—Sir John Evans in the chair.—Lieut.-Col. J. R. Bramble, Mr. G. Clulow, Mr. F. W. Hasluck, Mr. F. C. Higgins, Mr. F. Stickland Lyddon, Mr. T. Cowper Martin, Mr. W. Newall, Mr. G. F. Thorpe, Mr. W. F. Vinter, and Mr. H. Nelson Wright were elected Members.—A vote of condolence was passed to the widow and family of Prof. Mommsen, who was an Honorary Member and medalist of the Society.—The following exhibitions were made: Mr. L. Forrer, a rare drachm of Epidauros in Argolis, having on the obverse the head of Asclepius, and on the reverse a seated figure of that god (only one other specimen of that coin, which is in the Cabinet des Médailles at Paris, appears to be known); Mr. P. H. Webb, two denarii of Julia Domna, one with the reverse type of "Mater Deum," the other with figure of Vesta, but with the legend "Vasta"; Mr. A. D. Passmore, a penny of Baldred of Kent, A.D. 806-25, with his bust and the title "Rex M." instead of "Rex Cant.," and on the reverse a star formed of seven wedges with pellets between them, and around the moneyer's name "Danan," which does not occur on any other Anglo-Saxon coin, nor is it given in Searle's "Omnasticon Anglo-Saxonum"; Mr. F. W. Longbottom, an Irish penny the obverse of which is

copied from the so-called "Canopy" type of William I., whilst on the reverse are three outstretched arms; Mr. W. Webster, a shilling of Charles I. of the "Declaration" type, and probably struck at Shrewsbury, as the mint-mark, three plumes, on the obverse is without coronet or bands; Mr. C. E. Mackerell, a two-guinea piece of Charles II. of the unpublished date 1671; and Mr. H. Fentiman, a silver-gilt pass of the King's Theatre for the Prince of Wales's box; a beggar's badge to be worn by mendicants in the parish of Huntley, Aberdeen-shire; and a Bank of England dollar, dated 1804, struck over a Spanish dollar of 1805, which showed that the dies prepared for the coining of the Bank dollar of 1804 remained in use after that date.—The Shrewsbury medal which Mr. Harry Price exhibited at the meeting of the Society held on October 15th should have been described as being of silver-gilt, and not of gold.—The first portion of a paper by the late Mr. Frederick Spicer, on the coining of William I. and II., was read. The writer, having given an analysis of the various finds of each type of William I. and II., proceeded to deal with each type in its chronological order, and in discussing the so-called "Canopy" coins of William I. suggested that the bust is not placed beneath a canopy, but that it was intended to be represented as being within a portico, a type not infrequent on the German coins of the same period. It would, therefore, have a religious significance, denoting that William wished to bring about a reconciliation with the ecclesiastical party, many of whom he had treated with harshness.

LINNEAN.—Nov. 19.—Prof. S. H. Vines, President, in the chair.—Mr. T. A. Sprague was admitted a Fellow.—The Rev. J. Gerard exhibited a fasciated rose sent by the Rev. J. Dobson, of St. Ignatius's College, St. Julian, Malta, with this note: "A freak of a white climbing rose, in which eight or nine blossoms with their stalks have grown together. It was given me by the Director of Education from a rose-tree in his garden. He says there is nothing in the position of the bush to account for the peculiarity."—Dr. M. T. Masters observed that we are in complete ignorance of the causes which produce these peculiar teratologic cases.—The Rev. R. Ashington Bullen brought for exhibition an albino mole, from a farm near Bagshot: it was wholly of a light fawn colour, and no similar specimen has been seen for at least twenty years, though many moles had been trapped on the same farm.—Mr. A. D. Michael stated that he had been in the habit of investigating moles' nests for his researches on mites, but nothing of this kind had ever come under his notice.—Dr. Masters gave an abstract of his paper 'A General View of the Genus Pinus,' which was illustrated by cones and lantern-slides. His object was to discuss the nature and value of the characters made use of in discriminating the various species of Pinus, and to supply additional points of distinction derived from the anatomical structure of the leaf and other sources.—In the discussion which followed, Mr. A. C. Seward, Dr. D. H. Scott, and W. C. Worsdell, Dr. A. B. Rendle, Dr. A. Henry, and the President took part.—The second paper was by Miss Margaret Benson, D.Sc., and Miss Elizabeth Sanday, B.Sc., entitled 'Contributions to the Embryology of the Ametiferæ: Part II., *Carpinus betulus*,' and was read by Prof. F. W. Oliver. The material was collected during the first half of July, 1902, and the authors had the advantage of consulting Miss Sargent as to the best methods of fixing and embedding. Above 500 accurately orientated, stained, and mounted series of sections were obtained through ovules containing the earlier stages in the development of the definitive embryo-sacs, until the segmentation of the definitive nucleus and of the egg occurred. Former observations—see Part I. in *Trans. Linn. Soc.*, Ser. 2, Bot. iii. (1894), pp. 409-24—were confirmed and new facts obtained.—A short discussion followed, in which Mr. A. C. Seward and Dr. D. H. Scott joined.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 17.—The Duke of Bedford, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions to the menagerie during October, and called special attention to a fine male chimpanzee from the Albert Nyanza, presented by Lieut.-Col. D. Bruce; to two Scoresby's gulls (*Leucophaea scoresbyi*), deposited by the Hon. Walter Rothschild; and to two Wharton's fruit-pigeons (*Carpophaga whartoni*), and a Christmas Island dove (*Chalcophaps natalis*), presented by Capt. A. W. Cole.—Mr. H. Scherren exhibited and made some remarks on the largest horn of *Rhinoceros simus* yet obtained from the Soudan; he drew attention to the fact from the species appeared to be fairly numerous that the northern boundary of the Congo Free State and in the adjacent parts of the Soudan.—Mr. R. I. Pocock exhibited a piece of basalt, picked up on the coast of Victoria, Australia, which contained a web of the marine spider *Desis kenyonae*. This served to illustrate the habit of the spiders of

the genus *Desis* of spinning a closely woven sheet of silk over a crevice in the rock as a protection against the rising tide. Mr. Pocock also gave an exposition, illustrated by drawings, of a new suggestion as to the use of the white rump-patches of Ungulata, with special reference to the races of Burchell's zebra.—Mr. E. E. Austen exhibited and made remarks on specimens of *Glossina palpalis*, the species of tsetse-fly which is concerned in the transmission of "sleeping sickness" in the Uganda Protectorate. He also exhibited, for the sake of comparison, specimens of four other species of tsetse-flies, including *G. longipennis*, which occurs in Somaliland and may possibly prove destructive to the transport animals of the Somaliland Field Force.—Mr. Oldfield Thomas exhibited, on behalf of Mr. W. E. de Winton, a drawing of a skin of a female gazelle—probably *Gazella muscatensis*—from Sheikh Oman, near Aden, which showed a perfect hair-whorl on the withers. This whorl had been found to be absent in the male.—Mr. C. Tate Regan read a paper entitled 'A Revision of the Fishes of the Family Loricariidae,' in which nearly 200 species were recognized as valid, thirty-five being described as new to science. The types of the species described by Cuvier and Valenciennes and by Castelnau, in the Museum at Paris, had been examined. The genera were grouped into five subfamilies—Plecostominae, Hypoptopominae, Loricariinae, Neoplecostominae, and Argiinae, the last two subfamilies being regarded as closely related on anatomical grounds, although differing in external characters.—Dr. Blanford read, on behalf of Mr. V. V. Ramanan, a communication entitled 'Early Sanskrit References to the Tiger,' in which it was pointed out that the tiger was frequently alluded to in Sanskrit literature, and that Col. Stewart was in error in stating at a previous meeting that there was no Sanskrit name for this animal.—Mr. F. E. Beddard read a paper on the trachea and lungs and other points in the anatomy of the hamadryad snake (*Ophiophagus bungarus*).—Mr. G. A. Boulenger read a report on the fishes collected by Mr. Oscar Neumann and Baron Carlo von Erlanger in Gallaland and Southern Ethiopia. Examples of nineteen species, four of which were new, were contained in the collection, and these were enumerated and described.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Nov. 24.—Sir W. H. White, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'The Distribution of Mean and Extreme Annual Rainfall over the British Isles,' by Dr. H. R. Mill.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Nov. 23.—Mr. H. Bauerman in the chair.—The first of a course of Cantor Lectures on 'The Mining of Non-Metallic Minerals' was given by Mr. Bennett H. Brough.

Nov. 25.—Mr. H. H. Cunyngame in the chair.—A paper on 'The International Exposition at St. Louis, U.S.A., in 1904,' was read by Mr. G. F. Parker, Commissioner for the Exposition in the United Kingdom.

HISTORICAL.—Nov. 19.—Dr. G. W. Prothero, President, in the chair.—The following were elected Fellows: Messrs. J. Holland Rose, A. Forbes Sieveking, and C. R. Haines.—The following were admitted as subscribing libraries: The Bodleian Library, the Cambridge University Library, the Imperial Library, Strassburg, Keble College Library, the Brown University Library, Providence, U.S., and the public libraries of Hove and Kennington.—The paper was read by Dr. James Gairdner on 'The A paper was read by Dr. James Gairdner on 'The Supposed Conspiracy against Henry VII. in 1503,' in which the author suggested, as an explanation of the proceedings in the Star Chamber which formed the subject of a previous communication by Mr. I. S. Leadam, that the incriminated persons were probably acting as Government spies for the purpose of discovering the Yorkist intrigues.—A discussion followed, in which Mr. Leadam maintained his former view of the nature of this obscure incident, and the President summed up the evidence on both sides of the question.—The further communication announced on the subject of 'Peter's Pence in England,' by Dr. O. Jensen, of Copenhagen, was postponed.

PHYSICAL.—Nov. 13.—Dr. R. T. Glazebrook, President, in the chair.—Sir Oliver J. Lodge read a paper on 'Means for electrifying the Atmosphere on a Large Scale.' He then described 'An Arrangement for driving Mercury Pumps,' designed by himself and Mr. B. Davies.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- Mon. Royal Academy, 4.—'The Head and Neck,' Lecture I., Prof. A. Thomson.
- Institute of Actuaries, 5.—'The Comparative Mortality among Assured Lives of Abstainers and Non-Abstainers from Alcoholic Beverages,' Mr. R. Mackenzie Moore.
- London Institution, 5.—'Volcanoes, with Special Reference to Recent Eruptions,' Prof. E. J. Garwood.

- Mon. Society of Engineers, 7½.—Mechanical Stokers for Electricity Generating Stations, Mr. A. Gay.
- Society of Arts, 8.—The Mining of Non-Metallic Minerals, Lecture II, Mr. B. H. Brough. (Cantor Lectures.)
- Tues. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'The Distribution of Mean and Extreme Annual Rainfall over the British Isles.'
- Zoological, 8½.—'Some Cryptobranchiate Molluscs of the Family Dorididae from the East Coast of Africa and Zanzibar,' Sir C. Elliot; 'The Development of the Adult Colouring in *Parasira capitata*,' Dr. A. G. Butler; 'The Occasional Transformation of Meckel's Diverticulum in Birds into a Gland,' Dr. F. C. Mitchell; 'A Monograph of the Coleoptera of the Genus *Hippodamia*,' Mr. G. A. Marshall.
- Wed. Entomological, 8.—Notes on the Garnet-bearing and Associated Rocks of the Borrowdale Volcanic Series, the late Mr. E. H. Walker; 'A Contribution to the Glacial Geology of Tasmania,' Prof. J. W. Gregory.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Fiscal Problem,' Sir C. M. Kennedy.
- Thurs. Royal Academy, 4.—'The Head and Neck,' Lecture II, Prof. A. Thomson.
- Royal, 4½.
- London Institution, 6.—'Balloons and Flying Machines,' Mr. J. M. Bacon. (Travers Lecture.)
- Chemical, 8.—'The Molecular Formulae of some Fused Salts as determined by their Molecular Surface Energy,' Mr. J. F. Bottomley; 'Acid Salts of Monobasic Acids,' Mr. R. C. Farmer; 'The Atmospheric Corrosion of Zinc,' Mr. G. T. Moody; 'The Solubilities of the Hydrates of Nickel Sulphate,' Messrs B. D. Steele and F. M. G. Johnson.
- Linnean, 8.—Election of Zoological Secretary; Papers on 'Littoral Polychaeta from the Cape of Good Hope,' Dr. A. Willey; 'Notes on *Myriactis areochoupi* and *Colloides californica*,' Miss May Rathbone.
- Fri. Geological Association, 8.—Land, Freshwater, and Estuarine Deposits, the President.
- Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'Artificial Draught as applied by Fans to Steam Boilers,' Mr. W. H. A. Robertson. (Students' Meeting.)
- Philological, 8.—Theories of Old-English Verse-Structure, Prof. J. Lawrence.

Science Gossip.

THE function of laying the foundation stone of a new sanatorium for the treatment of consumptives in the Sussex hills by His Majesty recalls the determined efforts which have been made during the past few years, and received a great impulse at the London International Congress of July, 1901, to lessen this malady. At one time the disease was regarded as incurable at any stage; but when Koch established that it was due to a specific bacillus, to whose life-history and peculiarities he devoted himself, a much more hopeful view was taken. And though Koch's supposed specific—tuberculin—did not do all that was claimed, wonderful success has been attained by a course, especially within the initial stages of the disease, of fresh air and sunlight, supported by forced feeding with exceptionally nourishing food, to keep the body in its best possible state and ensure the utmost resistance to morbid processes. Antiseptics are also given internally, and great precautions are taken to destroy everything which comes from the patient. So thoroughly is the fresh-air treatment carried out that those who have undergone it develop what is known as "air hunger," and become intolerant of the ordinary living-room with the window slightly open. Modern treatment of the disease, when it is localized in particular glands (very commonly about the neck), the knee and elbow joints, and the abdominal peritoneum, has much improved, for here the surgeon's knife has done wonders. Indeed, in tubercular peritonitis (the abdominal form) the mere opening of the abdominal cavity (laparotomy) and simple cleansing have been found sufficient to start the process which ends in complete recovery.

MUCH of the present campaign is traceable to the organized work of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, one of the few bodies in which medical men and laymen join. Recognizing that the great hope of reducing the "attack rate," and therefore the mortality, lay in preventive measures, chiefly in repressing the dangerous habit of spitting, this society approached all the railway companies, municipal and urban authorities, and those responsible for places of resort and public vehicles, urging them to exhibit the warning notices which it issued. Some of these did not readily consent, and do not now, we regret to find, exhibit prominent warnings, but there is evidence of widespread acquiescence, and penalties for expectorating in buildings and vehicles of public resort are becoming the rule.

In the last number of *La Revue Dr. Romme* asks whether a remedy for tuberculosis has been

discovered, and, though nothing is yet certain, finds great hopes upon the experiments of Herr Behring, the famous German bacteriologist. These show that

"cows treated with intra-venous injections of tuberculous growths contained antitoxic substances which acted upon tuberculosis just as the Roux serum does upon diphtheria. He concluded from this that such milk might be considered as a vaccine, and that if given to a very young infant it ought to vaccinate it against tuberculosis in the same way as the vaccine of a heifer preserves it against small-pox."

Some day we shall hope to have a definitely curative serum to eliminate the bacillus from the body; meanwhile public opinion ought to enforce common-sense preventive measures.

THERE will be no shortest day in the northern hemisphere this year; for, as the sun attains his greatest southern declination at midnight on the 22nd prox., the 22nd and 23rd will be of equal length, and slightly exceeded by the 21st and 24th. On the last night of the year the moon will make a near approach to Aldebaran, but without actually occulting it. The planet Mercury will be visible in the evening during the second half of next month, moving nearly in an easterly direction in the constellation Sagittarius; he will be at greatest eastern elongation from the sun early in the morning of the first day of the New Year. Venus continues brilliant in the morning; she is now a little to the north of Spica, and in the course of next month will pass from Virgo into Libra, very near the star α in the latter constellation on the 21st. Mars is visible for some time after sunset, but faint, situated in the constellation Capricornus. Jupiter is in Pisces; he will be due south at six o'clock in the evening on the 8th prox., and at five o'clock on Christmas Day, setting a little before eleven. Saturn is in Capricornus, and will be very near Mars on the 20th, the conjunction taking place after they have set.

M. GUILLAUME, Director of the Lyons Observatory, in his annual report speaks of the increase, in the last two years, of the solar phenomena, the minimum having taken place, according to his observations, at the end of 1901. He considers that it is really the faculae which indicate the regions of greatest activity, and that the spots are of secondary importance in the matter. Other observers seem to be of a similar opinion. A very interesting article appeared in the *Nineteenth Century* and *After* for the present month, by Father Cortie, of Stonyhurst. Amongst other things in connexion with this subject, he discusses the vexed question of the so-called Wilson phenomenon and its criticism by the Rev. F. Howlett; his suggestion being that the spots are at a higher level than the photosphere during part of their manifestation, and at a lower level during another part. If depressions, they must be of a very shallow kind.

AN Astronomical Society has been founded in New Zealand, the first president being Mr. J. T. Ward, who is also honorary director of the observatory which has been established at Wanganui, near Wellington, in North Island, and provided with a Cooke equatorial of 9½ inches aperture and 12 feet focal length. The observatory was formally opened by the Premier on the 25th of May, and it is intended to provide other instruments when the funds will allow.

FINE ARTS

The Work of John S. Sargent, R.A. With an Introductory Note by Mrs. Meynell. (Heinemann.)

THIS elaborately handsome and expensive album of Mr. Sargent's work is all that could be desired. The numerous photographs are almost perfect reproductions; and how well Mr. Sargent's work lends

itself to this process! Photogravure, indeed, when it is as well executed as this, positively flatters the originals. In the first place the darks come out as velvety transparent tones, where in the original a dull opacity would be apparent; and, secondly, the sharpness and crudity of Mr. Sargent's oppositions, the suddenness and unpreparedness of his transitions, are slightly obscured and effaced, and both these accidents are undeniable gains. As a result of this effect all the striking qualities of Mr. Sargent's work—the unerring correctness of his placing, the logical certainty of his tone relations, the solidity and economy of his construction—are fully apparent without the disturbing sense of a desperately improvised and unscrupulous technique. For instance, when Mr. Sargent treats a silhouette of dark against a lighter background, in contradiction at once of sound tradition and reasonable practice, he paints the light with a full brush round and over the dark instead of throwing the dark silhouette on the light. This in his pictures is often extremely disturbing, preventing the eye from passing round the silhouetted form to a space beyond; but in these reproductions the slight blurring of the transitions minimizes this fault. Consequently, since even Mrs. Meynell's enthusiasm shrinks from calling Mr. Sargent a colourist, one can almost judge him better—certainly more sympathetically—by this album than after admiring the pictures themselves. It would certainly be impossible to deny the possession of very rare and very unusual gifts to the man who has to his record such a body of work as is reproduced in this volume. The astonishing thing about him is, too, his constant success, the rarity of failure—nearly every one of these pictures represents a victory, a struggle with some problem of representation successfully carried through to some kind of termination. There are in them no mere hints of ideas that might have come off; whatever possibilities the thing seen had for Mr. Sargent, he has somehow got them recorded. The weapons of his attack are a purely mechanical system of visual analysis elaborated in Paris studios, and learnt by Mr. Sargent as perfectly as any student ever learnt anything, and over and above this a great power of co-ordination. With these two faculties he has faced nature, and succeeded in doing what the photograph just does not do, and yet so nearly does that we feel it ought to be able to acquire the trick. As it is, such pictures as the 'President Roosevelt,' when translated into monochrome by reproduction, have all the appearance of slightly simplified photographs from nature. One alone of the pictures here presented seems definitely non-photographic in its mode of conception, the 'Madame Gautreau.' Here the pale silhouette is seized upon and wilfully emphasized with a really artistic, as opposed to a purely representative purpose; here, too, for once in the contour of the arms there is something one may call drawing, as opposed to the merely correct placing of an inexpressive line. Even here, however, we are warned by the outline study of the profile how far from real draughtsmanship Mr. Sargent's talent

lies. How blunt and how mechanical is the containing line of this contour! It is, in short, the perfection of the painter's mechanism, not the elevation or passionate intensity of his conviction, that is brought out for us when we turn over these admirable illustrations. Mrs. Meynell's preface is commendable. We are far from agreeing with her conclusions, but they are stated with reserve and discretion, and the modest proportions of her essay, compared with the bulk of illustrations, make this book a model of its kind.

Happy England. As Painted by Helen Allingham. With Memoir and Descriptions by Marcus B. Huish. (Black.)—For the woman of some years ago painting was a necessary domestic accomplishment, but for a woman to regard it as a serious profession was, to say the least of it, an eccentricity. Few women, in consequence, looked to painting as a means of making a livelihood, and the two or three who did so with any degree of success, perhaps in virtue of their splendid isolation, loomed rather more largely in the public eye than do their more numerous followers in the present day. Thus Mrs. Allingham and Miss Greenaway first exhibited their drawings to people already prepared to meet them half-way, and their success would have been a certainty even if their work had been far less immediately attractive than it is.

In the matter, too, of technical training, Mrs. Allingham was, *mutatis mutandis*, not less thoroughly schooled than the women artists of to-day, while in one respect she was more fortunate than most of them. Her training was borne so lightly as to be a help to her, and not the burden upon all natural impulses that the more strenuous schooling now in fashion is apt to become. By restricting herself consistently to favourite subjects, to the things her sex instinctively likes—pretty children, pretty cottages, pretty flowers, and pretty blue skies—Mrs. Allingham has produced work possessing a very definite personal note. She is, in fact, entirely successful within the limits she has assigned to her art, and so much cannot be said of many more ambitious achievements.

Those limits, of course, are not very wide. The title of the book has been well chosen, for, as Mr. Huish remarks in his prefatory chapter, we find within its covers only a one-sided and partial view of life and nature. "None of the sterner realities of either are presented." Mrs. Allingham, in fact, works in the mood of the age that was represented by Tennyson and Fred Walker, an age when, apparently, skies were always bright, the rich always gracious, the poor always clean and smiling. Our own age is less blind to essential facts, and not always tolerant of blindness in others. Nevertheless, in the very absence of all trace of painful effort which is characteristic of Mrs. Allingham's work the impartial critic may see no small advantage, for she gains thereby the charm of restfulness, which more learned and ambitious work frequently misses. The quiet of Mrs. Allingham's idylls of country life is in itself a thing to be thankful for in these unquiet days. The technical ability which won her such unstinted praise in the past was amply sufficient to express her feelings, and no artist needs more than that. If her work is not conceived quite in the spirit of our own time, it is none the less so thoroughly sincere, womanly, and unpretentious as to deserve the popularity it has always enjoyed.

The eighty drawings which represent all the stages and phases of Mrs. Allingham's work are reproduced in colour, on the whole with considerable success, though one or two of the blocks have clouded slightly. Mr. Marcus

Huish has composed some 200 pages of commentary, to make a book, as he frankly confesses, of the size to which the public has been accustomed. He seems to have had but slender material for the task, and deserves to be congratulated on the skill with which he has expanded it.

La National Gallery. Par Gustave Geffroy. (Nilsson & Co.)—In his preface M. Geffroy explains the aim of his book. He wishes to give an idea of the artistic importance of the National Gallery to those who cannot come to England to see it. This purpose he has, on the whole, accomplished with no small degree of success. French is a language whose artistic vocabulary is far more flexible than our own, and M. Geffroy employs its resources admirably. He is able, too, to reinforce the natural facility of his style with the freshness and enthusiasm of discovery. The strength and compass of our national collection were evidently a surprise to him, and this surprise is nowhere more noticeable than in his appreciation of the British School. M. Geffroy is not always exact in his facts, nor is his information so complete as that of a Londoner would be. He appears, for instance, not to have discovered Hertford House. It is evident, too, that he has not troubled himself over much with the results of modern criticism, being content to accept attributions as he finds them. His work is thus in no sense definite and final. Yet if it cannot be regarded as an addition to the knowledge of the educated lover of pictures, it is, nevertheless, in many ways well adapted to the needs of the general public. It is much better written than most books of its kind, it omits few pictures of real importance, and it is enlivened by a genuine enthusiasm, which is seldom misdirected and never ridiculous. Last, but not least, it is profusely illustrated with some fifty full-page collotypes and about three times that number of small process blocks. These latter certainly are not very clear or successful, but many of the larger plates are excellent, and their selection has been made with more taste and judgment than are usually found in books of the kind.

The Ancestor. No. VII. (Constable & Co.)—Keen, but never malicious or offensive criticism may be regarded as the key-note of this valuable and spirited quarterly. The section termed 'What is Believed' continues to be as pungent and as mirthful as before. There is a breezy frank good nature about the criticism of its own lapses. The editor selects a slip of his own in No. VI. of the *Ancestor* as the prize genealogical blunder of the quarter, for in that issue he "sent perjured George of Clarence childless to his butt." There is, however, abundance of good material that is of an original and constructive character. 'The Massingberds of Sutterton, Gunby, and Ormsby,' by the Rev. W. O. Massingberd, with a good series of family portraits, well deserves the place of honour as the opening paper. Mr. J. Horace Round writes on 'English Counts of the Empire' and on 'The Rise of the Pophams'; and there are substantial papers on the Swynnertons, the Langtons, the Wrottesleys, and several other families of note. Among lighter papers of genuine interest may be mentioned 'The Journey of Gédéon Bonnavert to Ireland' (1690) and 'A Tale of Bristol City.' There is a further instalment of the very useful illustrated 'Fifteenth-Century Roll of Arms,' which includes an unintentional joke. P. 185 bears the headline of 'What is Believed' over a section of this armorial!

MESSES. AGNEW'S WINTER EXHIBITION.

MESSES. AGNEW'S annual exhibition on behalf of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution is a notable one. Of the twenty-four pictures by deceased masters of the British School which compose it (the portrait of Lady Hamilton by Madame Le Brun is the single non-British pic-

ture), at least one half are of real importance, and, as is the case with the Birmingham exhibition, which we noticed some weeks ago, many of the pictures have not been previously exhibited. The show has thus the additional attraction of novelty.

One picture only seems to us unworthy of its place, the *Fishing Boats*, which is attributed in the Catalogue to J. S. Cotman. It is enough to say that Cotman's manner from childhood to old age is consistently striking and individual; that it bears no resemblance at any period to the loose, scattered, and conventional treatment of this picture; that his earliest dated oil painting belongs to the year 1812, and shows that he had then very little experience of that medium, while the 'Fishing Boats' was obviously executed by some practised student or the Dutch marine painters during the previous century.

There is but a single example of Reynolds in the exhibition, the *Henry, Twelfth Earl of Suffolk*; yet that picture is enough to establish his pre-eminence in the British School. As a piece of colour it is at once novel, harmonious, and luminous, as a design it is broad and majestic, and the modelling of the not very interesting head is a marvel of strength and simplicity. Yet it is no mere technical masterpiece, for it is inspired throughout by that superb sympathy for eighteenth-century breeding that makes Sir Joshua always seem a prince among portrait painters, by whose side Gainsborough might look like a distinguished poet, Van Dyck a brilliant courtier, and even Holbein no more than an incomparable "Painter to the King."

Gainsborough is represented by four pictures. Of these the enchanting portrait of ugly Miss Willoughby (19), the *Mrs. Tennant* (23), retouched on the face and hands, and the sound, serious *Sir Robert Clayton* (9), do not call for special notice in a collection whose average is so fine. His large composition of *The Mushroom Girl* (21) is lightly and beautifully painted, is broad and original in design, perfect in colour, and altogether charming in conception; yet, somehow, it is not entirely successful, perhaps by reason of its scale. As a small picture, some two or three feet high, the thing would undoubtedly be almost perfect, but the airy rusticity of the piece does not seem to stand the test of expansion on a canvas some seven feet by five.

Admirers of Romney will find all his usual attractiveness in the pretty portraits of *Lady Arabella Ward* (3) and *Miss Evans* (24), as well as in the fine full-length picture of *Lady Isabella Hamilton* (10). They will also be provided with an opportunity of seeing his genius in an unusual aspect when they come to the portrait of *Mrs. Drummond Smith* (12). So broad and splendid in design is this canvas, so few traces of Romney's facile technique does the handling retain (the absence of his characteristic umber shadows may be noted), that at first sight it would be pardonable to attribute the picture to Reynolds. A closer examination, however, reveals that the painting is unquestionably by Romney, though by Romney full of admiration or rivalry of Sir Joshua. The result is a picture which, if it lacks the easy immediate charm of Romney's typical style, is so brilliant and solid as to rank among his very finest achievements. Those lesser masters of portraiture Hoppner and Raeburn are finely represented, but the flimsiness of the one and the bad colouring of the other are accentuated by the good company in which they are placed. There is a singularly fine specimen of Opie, and a sound if rather heavy landscape by Stark; but limits of space compel us to pass them by, and deal briefly with the two huge Turners that dominate one wall of the gallery.

The view of *Dieppe Harbour* (13), like the big composition by Gainsborough, suffers from being painted on too large a scale. Its most notable quality is, perhaps, the blaze of the sunlight,

obtained with a smoothness and ease that seem almost miraculous, when one remembers how much rough and clumsy pigment a great modern painter would have to use to get such brightness. The 'Dieppe' is a wonderful picture, and would possibly appear even more wonderful were it not hung as a companion to the same painter's *Dutch Fishing Boats* (7).

This magnificent creation, dating from about 1828, is not, perhaps, so perfectly unified as Turner's best works in either his early manner or his late one, nor are the crowded figures in the foreground boat lighted and coloured with quite perfect taste. Yet as a whole the thing is a marvel that is almost beyond criticism. The splendid effect with which the great sail flashes against the sky is the dominant note of the composition. The tremendous realism by which the slow heaving of the sea is suggested, the delicate painting of the distant ships, and the wonderful strength and truth of the stormy sky are perhaps less striking, but are hardly less remarkable. Even in an exhibition like this, where portrait painting in its highest form is so well represented, such a landscape can hold its place with more than credit, and that is saying a good deal.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 19th inst. the following engravings. After Opie: *The Sleeping Nymph*, by P. Simon, 32l. After Wheatley: *The Disaster*, by W. Ward, 29l. After Reynolds: *Mrs. Sheridan as St. Cecilia*, by W. Dickinson, 115l.; *Countess of Salisbury*, by V. Green, 29l. After Hamilton: *The Months*, by Bartolozzi and Gardner (the set of twelve), 102l. After Lawrence: *Lady Peel*, 60l.; *Countess Gower and Child*, by the same, 37l. After Gardner: *Mrs. Gwynne and Mrs. Bunbury*, by W. Dickinson, 27l. After Morland: *The History of Lætitia*, by J. R. Smith (the set of six), 86l. After Morland: *The Deserter*, by G. Keating, 32l. After H. Bunbury: *Modern Graces*, by E. Scott, 38l.

Among the prices realized at a sale of coins and medals by Messrs. Glendining & Co. on Tuesday and Wednesday last were: Indian medal, *Battle of Delhi*, Laswaree (76th Regiment), 54l.; *Victoria Cross*, awarded to Sergeant-Major Rosamond in the Indian Mutiny, 54l.; *Waterloo*, 1815 (51st Regiment), 10l.; *Peninsular medal*, five bars, 15l. 10s.; and silver medal of the 3rd King's Dragoons, for merit, 1801, 15l.

Fine-Art Cassy.

LAST Wednesday was the private view of a selection of the work of Mr. Walter Crane at Messrs. Dickinson's rooms in New Bond Street.

LAST Thursday was the private view of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours at 5, Pall Mall East.

TO-DAY oil paintings by Mr. P. C. Pace and Mr. Percy J. Rendell at the Ryder Gallery, and water-colours concerning the Holy Land and Baalbec, by Mr. Stanley Inghold, at the Fine-Art Society's Rooms, are on private view.

THE International Society of Sculptors, Painters, and Gravers propose to dispense with the usual private view at their forthcoming exhibition in the New Gallery, and will hold an evening reception instead.

THE exhibition of the Royal Scottish Academy will next spring open a fortnight earlier than usual. This means that all works for exhibition will have to be sent to the galleries on Wednesday, January 20th. A feature of the forthcoming show will be a display of works by Whistler.

THE Guild of Handicraft are holding their second annual exhibition at their new gallery, 67, Bond Street.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE'S important picture sales begin unusually early this year, and to-day's sale includes many pictures which are not as a rule offered until April or May. They are derived from various sources. There is a good example of Jan Steen, one of Terburg, and one of Hobbema. Some of the early English pictures are excellent, and will command good prices. Hoppner's portrait of Lady Coote, and Raeburn's 'Master Hay' and portrait of Mrs. Barbara Murchison, afterwards Mrs. Robert Macgregor Murray, are especially worthy of notice.

A PHIL MAY folio, containing over 300 of his best drawings and sketches, in preparation by Mr. T. S. Clark for Messrs. W. Packer, will be issued early in December. The whole of the *édition de luxe* has already been bought.

M. DAGNAN-BOUVERET on Saturday last put the final touch—the varnish—on his fresco, with the title 'Pacem Summa Tenet,' at the Sorbonne. This work was arranged for nine years ago, and is placed in the Richelieu amphitheatre. The time is a summer's evening, and the subject Apollo surrounded by the muses.

M. PAUL BAUDOUIN has been selected to restore the frescoes in the porch of Saint Germain-l'Auxerrois. The work will begin early next year. The cost is estimated at 20,000 francs, of which one half will be defrayed by the City of Paris, the other by the Minister of Public Instruction. M. Baudouin is well known by his paintings in the Bibliothèque, and by those in the *salle* of the Paris Municipal Council, and at the Lycée Corneille at Rouen.

THE newly born Anglo-French alliance has brought into prominence a most interesting medal, now on exhibition at the Salle Bugeaud, in the Musée de l'Armée, struck in 1854. This medal was in commemoration of the alliance at the time of the Crimean War; it is inscribed with a long and enthusiastic inscription to the effect that the two great nations were allied to deliver the oppressed Christians in the East from the tyranny of the infidels. On one side the medal is ornamented with a figure symbolical of the alliance.

AT the Hôtel Drouot, Paris, last week the collection of paintings, drawings, and water-colours which was the property of the well-known printing firm of Lemercier was dispersed. Works by some of the most successful illustrators of the day were included in the sale, but the prices realized are not worth special notice. A portrait of M. Alfred Lemercier by Carolus Duran, painted in 1884, inscribed "à mon ami Lemercier," and measuring 63½ cent. by 52½ cent., sold for 2,500 francs. There were numerous posters by Léandre, Grasset, and others.

THE Reader in Egyptian Archaeology at Liverpool University, Mr. John Garstang, has completed arrangements on behalf of the Beni Hasan Excavations Committee for an expedition to Egypt during the coming season. The concession obtained from the Egyptian Government includes an extension of the field of last winter's exploration, the results of which were exhibited at Burlington House in July, as described in these columns. A special feature in the season's work will be the examination of the great tomb at Negadeh, supposed by some to have been the tomb of Menes, the first of the great kings of Egypt. The Committee includes several distinguished archaeologists and patrons of research.

THE British Museum will publish next week a new edition of their 'Guide to the First and Second Egyptian Rooms,' the predynastic and early dynastic part of which has been entirely rewritten. A guide to the remaining rooms in the Egyptian Department is in the press and will appear shortly.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Broadwood Concert; Mr. F. Macmillan's Violin Recital.

BECHSTEIN HALL.—Signor Busoni's Pianoforte Recital.

THE second Broadwood Concert, last Thursday week, at St. James's Hall was one of considerable interest. The programme opened with Mozart's Quintet in E flat for pianoforte, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon. The wind players, all prominent members of the Queen's Hall orchestra, were Messrs. D. Lalande, M. Gomez, A. Borsdorf, and E. F. James, while Mr. Henry J. Wood presided most ably at the pianoforte. The music may not be the noblest ever written by Mozart, but it is beautiful and refined, and, moreover, was admirably rendered. Four German songs by Mr. Roger Quilter, a young composer who studied under Iwan Knorr at Frankfurt, showed delicacy and poetical feeling. They were sung by Mrs. Henry J. Wood, who was afterwards heard in other songs by British composers: 'Presentiment,' by Rutland Boughton, and 'Un Grand Sommeil Noir,' by Norman O'Neill, both noticeable for harmonic colouring rather than actual inspiration, and "There comes an end to summer," by Cyril Scott, and 'Summer Sweet,' by Josef Holbrooke, both clever and spontaneous, and therefore direct in their appeal. Brahms's Trios and Quartet for female voices, Op. 17, with accompaniment of two horns and harp, are not often heard. The trios are not lacking in romantic feeling, yet they do not create a very marked impression. In the final quartet, 'The Death of Trenar,' the composer, however, found tones and colours which strongly intensify the sadness of the poem; it was also the best rendered of the set. Miss Evelyn Stuart played the Prelude and Fugue in C minor, from the first part of the 'Well-tempered Clavier,' neatly and with intelligence. This rising pianist is among the wise minority which prefers Bach's genuine clavier fugues to transcriptions from his organ works. Another solo was Rameau's Gavotte and Variations in A minor, a piece much more effective when performed on a harpsichord.

Mr. Francis Macmillan, who made a first appearance at St. James's Hall on the 6th of this month, gave a recital there on Tuesday afternoon, in which he confirmed the good impression already made. In a Chaconne by Vitali he showed fine technique and good style, and in a Bach Aria dignity and feeling.

Signor Busoni gave a pianoforte recital at the Bechstein Hall last Saturday afternoon. There was nothing new in the programme, for it was devoted entirely to Chopin. And yet the recital deserves mention, for it is rare to hear striking renderings of Chopin, and the artist was in splendid form. Great pianists have their better and worse moments; it is only the mediocre player who is always the same. In the Sonata in B flat minor the tone in the loud passages was too heavy; Signor Busoni seemed to be trying to get more tone out of the instrument than it was capable of giving out; and we found the reading of the Funeral March on the whole melodramatic. But there were some

fine moments in both movements. The finale, not played as a mere *toccata* piece, was most impressive; by skilful use of pedals a weird wailing effect was produced. After the sonata came the twelve *Études*, Op. 25. Nothing could have been more delicate and refined than the rendering of Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, or more powerful than that of No. 10, the one in octaves. Signor Busoni is one of the few interpreters of Chopin who allow the audience to forget the technical difficulties of the music, and feel its poetry.

Manual or Method of Instruction for playing the Welsh Harp. From the MS. of the late Ellis Roberts (Eos Meirion). (Vincent Music Company).—Edward Jones, in his 'Musical and Poetical Relics of the Welsh Bards,' published in 1794, refers to the triple harp, or harp with three rows of strings, also to a poem of the fifteenth century in which it is mentioned. Peppys, by the way, speaks of a musical gathering at the Half-Moon, "where we were very merry, and had the young man who plays so well upon the Welsh Harp." The instrument has two outer rows of strings tuned in unison, and a middle row with the notes of the diatonic scale chromatically altered. The Welsh and Irish naturally cling to their native harps, and this manual appears to be the only one ever written for the Welsh instrument; it will, therefore, no doubt prove most acceptable. It is based on a manuscript of the late Ellis Roberts, harpist to our present King when he was Prince of Wales, discovered by Mr. Parry, of Liverpool, after a search of fourteen years. It has now been printed by the assistance of the Hon. Augusta Herbert, of Llanover. It may be mentioned that a Welsh harp which belonged to her mother, Lady Llanover, is in the South Kensington Museum.

Manual of Plain-song. Prepared by H. B. Briggs and W. H. Frere under the General Superintendence of John Stainer (late President of the Plain-song and Mediæval Music Society).—A *Manual of Plain-song with Accompanying Harmonies*. By W. G. A. Shebbeare. (Novello & Co.).—The former, containing the Canticles noted to Gregorian tones, together with the Litany and Responses, is a new edition of a work for which, naturally, there is a great demand. Sir John Stainer revised the greater part of the proofs before his death. He also discussed at length with Mr. Shebbeare the organ accompaniments which are to be found in the second volume. The four men concerned in these publications had wide knowledge of, and sympathy with, the subject; two of them, it may be added (Sir John Stainer and Mr. Briggs), have gone to their rest.

The Story of Notation. By C. F. A. Williams. (Walter Scott Publishing Company).—Our modern musical system of notation is daily used by thousands of persons who have known it from childhood, and who probably have never given a thought to its origin. It sprang, as our author shows, from the Greek notation, and the history of the various stages through which it passed before it became what is now familiar to us is one of real, we may indeed say romantic interest. It is "the outcome of centuries of experiments and gradual improvements." Before the Greeks the Semitic nations may have had a system of notation, though as yet it has not been traced. Chap. ii. gives a clear account of the Greek system, and some acquaintance with it as the foundation of the various mediæval and modern systems is indispensable. The terms are, it is true, "lengthy and strange-looking," but when their meaning is understood they are not so very "alarming." To understand the origin of the staff or stave and of the clefs is useful; if children were taught something

about these matters, the form and function of lines and of the disguised letters which serve as clefs would be quickly learnt, and not easily forgotten. The improvement made by Guido in the stave is not stated quite clearly; he virtually added more than two lines to the two red and yellow in use before his time. The chapter on various tablatures is interesting. A copy of the tablature-book of Ammerbach in the British Museum "belonged to Bach, and contains his autograph," says our author. But there is grave doubt as to the genuineness of the signature. The patient research shown by Mr. Abdy Williams in this volume deserves recognition.

Musical Gossip.

AT last Saturday's Popular Concert Miss Fanny Davies played in her best manner twelve short pieces entitled 'Mélodies Postiques,' by the Italian composer Giovanni Sgambati, Op. 36, which are dedicated to her. They all bear titles. In one named 'Escarpolette' ('Swing') there is naturally a touch of realism, but the other superscriptions merely indicate moods. They are refined pieces, and pleasantly written for the instrument.

MESSRS. CHAPPELL gave their third Ballad Concert at Queen's Hall last Saturday afternoon. Of the four new songs, Miss Teresa del Riego supplied two, the tuneful 'Happy Song' and the expressive 'Where Love has been,' both being gracefully rendered by Miss Muriel Foster. A moderately effective setting by Mr. G. H. Clutsam of Herrick's 'Sweet, be not Proud,' was sung by Mr. Ben Davies, and a humorous example by Mr. Hermann Löhr, called 'The Little Irish Girl,' was treated in genial fashion by Mr. Denham Price. Madame Blauevelt, Miss Gwendolen Maude, Madame Horstense Paulsen, the Misses Sassard, Madame Kirby Lunn, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, Mr. Albert Garcia, Mr. Vladimir de Pachmann, and Mr. Johannes Wolff also took part in the concert, the violinist introducing a new and melodious Romance by Mr. Arthur Hervey.

STUDENTS' concerts herald the approach of Christmas. One was given by the Royal Academy of Music on Monday afternoon, at which some good singing by Miss Verena M. F. Mutter, and good pianoforte playing by Miss Violet L. Stewart, were heard; also some pleasing songs by Montague T. Philipps, the Henry Smart Scholar.—At an orchestral concert by the pupils of the Guildhall School of Music on Wednesday evening Miss Jenny Hyman played the solo part of Tschaiikowsky's Piano-forte Concerto in B flat minor; she has good technique, and in many ways shows promise.

MR. JULIAN MARSHALL, amateur musician and collector, died last Saturday. He wrote a number of articles for Grove's 'Dictionary of Music' and other periodicals.

THE Grand Opera Syndicate, in conjunction with Mr. Schulz-Curtius, intend to give an Elgar Festival at Covent Garden Theatre, March 14-16, 1904, with the Manchester choir and orchestra under the direction of Dr. Richter. The scheme includes 'The Dream of Gerontius' and 'The Apostles'; also an orchestral concert, at which will be produced a new work by Dr. Elgar.

JUDGE LACOMBE has refused Frau Cosima Wagner's petition for an injunction forbidding the production of 'Parsifal' in New York.

DR. HUGO RIEMANN has discovered the exact date of the death of Johann Stamitz; it is given in the registry of deaths in the Catholic parsonage at Mannheim as March 30th, 1757. This date is of some importance in the history of the evolution of the symphony. In 1757 Mozart was only fourteen months old, and Haydn had not as yet written any symphony, hence Stamitz is to be regarded as the creator of

the modern style, and the direct predecessor of Haydn. He wrote no fewer than forty-seven symphonies.

TSCHAIKOWSKY died on November 6th, 1893, and in memorial concerts have been given both by the Moscow Conservatoire and the Philharmonic Society, also by the Russian Musical Society at St. Petersburg under the direction of M. Chassin.

'DE KAPEL' ('La Chapelle'), the new work of the Flemish composer Jan Blockx, has just been produced at the Flemish Theatre at Antwerp. The composer of 'La Princesse d'Auvergne' and 'La Fiancée de la Mer' has scored a fresh success. The work is soon to be given at the Monnaie, Brussels.

THE Librairie Félix Juven has just published a French translation of the letters of Wagner to his Dresden friends, Theodor Uhlig, Wilhelm Fischer, and Ferdinand Heine. M. A. Pougin, in *Le Ménestrel* of November 15th, remarks concerning this correspondence:—

"The reading of these letters produces fatigue; one feels saturated with the epistolary prose of this cumbersome being, so frightfully personal, who was wrapped up in himself, and would not, or could not, think about anything else."

True enough; but surely the distinguished French writer must know that men of paramount genius are of this stamp.

IN 1830 Berlioz won the Grand Prix de Paris with his cantata 'Sardanapale,' and the composer Adolphe Adam wrote to him expressing a wish to hear the performance of the work. The *Rivista Musicale Italiana* publishes the reply of the successful candidate. He hopes to be fortunate in getting a seat for Adam, but cannot help warning him

"that it is a very mediocre work, which does not express my inmost musical thought. There are few things in it which please me; it is by no means on a level with the actual state of music, but full of commonplaces, of trivial scoring, which I was forced to write in order to win the prize."

He would rather have Adam come to the performance of his Overture to Shakspeare's 'Tempest' at the Opera. "At any rate there I shall speak my own language, I shall not be gagged." On this letter *Le Ménestrel* truly remarks: "Berlioz est là dans son vrai jour."

Le Ménestrel of November 22nd contains, by the way, the programme of a concert given by MM. Hector Berlioz and Girard on that day sixty-eight years ago, at the Conservatoire. The last number was a first performance of Beethoven's Sonata in c sharp minor, arranged for orchestra by M. Girard. We wonder whether it was actually performed, and, if so, what Berlioz thought of it. The concert was noticed by Jules Janin in *Les Débats* of November 28th; but although all the instrumental and two of the three vocal numbers are mentioned, there is not a word about this curious transcription. It was not Girard's first attempt at this kind of thing. In 1832, at a concert given by Liszt in the ancient hall Saint-Jean of the Paris Hôtel de Ville, his arrangement as a symphony of the 'Sonate Pathétique' was performed.

A TOUCHING letter by Albert Lortzing has been recently published by Director Dorn in the *Deutsche Bühnengenossenschafts-Zeitung*. It is dated December 13th, 1850, and was addressed by Lortzing, then conductor of the "Frederick William" (now German) Theatre, to Ziegessar, intendant of the Court Theatre at Weimar. He quotes Lessing's words, "Art goes a-begging": that has been his experience, and that probably "of many of my German colleagues." He asks if, for once, by way of exception, the honorarium for the performance of his 'Czar and Zimmermann' could be paid beforehand—before Christmas. He ends thus:—

"There are movements in life—but the above motto expresses everything that a German composer

(in other words, a poor devil) could say on the matter. I therefore stop."

Ten Friedrich d'or were at once sent by the kind-hearted intendant, and this small sum acquired for good the performing rights of the opera. Five weeks later (January 21st, 1851) Lortzing died. In 1850 there was another "poor devil" who might, in his Zurich retreat, have taken Lessing's words as his motto.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Sunday Society Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
—	Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Annual Scotch Concert, 7.30, Albert Hall.
—	Monday Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
TUE.	Mr. Newlands Smith's Concert, 3.30, Bechstein Hall.
—	Richter Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
—	Miss F. Carla's Concert, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
WED.	Mr. Robert Newman's Testimonial Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
THURS.	Miss Winifred Christie's Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Royal Choral Society ('Hiawatha'), 8, Albert Hall.
FRI.	London Welsh Society's Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
—	Royal College of Music ('Hänsel and Gretel'), 2, Lyric Theatre.
SAT.	Mr. Flunket Greene's Vocal Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Saturday Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
—	Chappell's Ballad Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
—	Rusoni's Pianoforte Recital, 3.30, Bechstein Hall.
—	Amateur Orchestral Society, 3.30, Crystal Palace.

DRAMA

'UNDER THE CANOPY.'

WILL you kindly allow me to most emphatically deny that my new play, 'Under the Canopy,' recently produced at the Pavilion Theatre, is an "adaptation" of Mr. Joseph Hatton's novel 'By Order of the Czar'? The whole matter may be briefly summarized as follows. On the play-bill it is stated, "The author desires to acknowledge his indebtedness for one of the themes of this play to the fine novel by Joseph Hatton, Esq., 'By Order of the Czar.'" This should have read, that one of the themes of the play was based upon historical incidents on which Mr. Hatton had himself based his novel. There would then have been no confusion, historical matter being, I take it, accessible to all writers, novelists and dramatists alike, and play and novel are widely divergent in treatment. I should be sorry to do any writer an injustice, and if Mr. Hatton will point out to me any incident in my play which is his sole creation, and which wrongfully interferes with his dramatized version of his novel, I will at once delete it, and at the same time withdraw my note from the bill. In the writing of my play I studied my subject as thoroughly as Mr. Hatton did that of his novel. I read Jewish literature; I used the Kisheneff Massacres; I visited "Petticoat Lane"; I witnessed a Jewish wedding; and in other ways fitted myself to carry out the commission which Mr. Isaac Cohen gave me, to write for him a Jewish play. I have privately explained the position to Mr. Hatton as courteously as possible, and am prepared to fall in with his wishes consistent with an author's undoubted right to use material of history in the fulfilment of his work.

J. JAMES HEWSON.

Dramatic Gossip.

ONE more has been added to the innumerable exponents of Magda. At the Royalty on Monday Frau Haubrich-Willig appeared for the first time in this country as the heroine of Sudermann's powerful play 'Heimat,' in which almost every artist of highest note has figured. The domestic and pathetic aspects of the character are those in the presentation of which the latest exponent is most successful. Wednesday witnessed the first presentation of 'Narciss,' the drama founded by Brachvogel upon 'Le Neveu de Rameau' of Diderot, a piece dating back to 1856, and in this country in the rendering by Tom Taylor at the Lyceum to 1868, when Daniel Bandmann made, as Narciss, his first appearance in England. Frau Haubrich-Willig was the Marchioness of Pompadour, and Herr Max Behrend the nephew of Rameau, a sort of anticipatory Gringoire. 'The Pompa-

dour,' a piece founded by W. G. Wills and Sydney Grundy upon 'Narciss,' was given at the Haymarket on March 31st, 1888, with Mr. Tree as the Neveu de Rameau.

The production at the Edinburgh Lyceum of 'Love's Carnival,' the not very appropriately named rendering by Rudolf Bleichmann of Hartleben's 'Rosenmontag,' is by way of trial before its presentation by Mr. Alexander next year at the St. James's. It is a powerful work, has strong interest, and presents a picture of military life which, at its first performance in Berlin at the Deutsches Theater in October, 1900, commended it greatly to the German public. Whether its quasi-tragic ending will be acceptable to a world such as ours, fed on spoon meat, is a matter on which Mr. Alexander seeks, and will doubtless obtain, information.

The next Haymarket novelty will consist of a comedy by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, entitled 'Joseph Entangled.'

'THE PERILS OF FLIRTIATION' is the title of a four-act play by Mr. Walter Frith, which has been given at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, by a company including Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Gilbert Farquhar, Mr. Berte Thomas, and Mr. Granville Barker.

The reopening of the St. James's by Mr. George Alexander will take place on January 26th with 'Old Heidelberg.'

MR. BOURCHIER is rehearsing actively his new version of 'The Cricket on the Hearth,' the production of which on Tuesday at the Garrick will constitute the next important change of programme at that theatre.

'DICK HOPE,' a new play by Mr. Ernest Hendrie, has been produced by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal in Manchester.

A TRANSLATION, by Mr. Laurence Irving, of Maxim Gorki's 'In the Lower Depths,' will be given by the Stage Society at the Court Theatre to-morrow evening and on Monday afternoon.

'HONOR' is the title of a play by Miss Alicia Ramsey and Mr. Rudolph de Cordova, which was produced on Monday at the Kennington Theatre. It makes use of familiar characters and situations, and was acted by Miss Kate Rorke, Mr. Norman McKinnell, Mr. J. D. Beveridge, and Mr. John Beauchamp.

SIR HENRY IRVING is credited with the intention of reviving on his return Tennyson's 'Beckett.'

AMONG the pieces to be given in the approaching season by the Stage Society is a translation of 'Les Bienfaiteurs' of M. Eugène Brieux, a four-act piece produced in October, 1896, at the Porte Saint Martin.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has in reserve an adaptation of 'The Sowers' of the late Henry Seton Merriman.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL is said to have commissioned Mr. John Davidson to write her a play on the subject of 'Œdipus Rex.' It may be presumed that she will play Jocasta.

'ROSE BERND,' the latest play of Herr Gerhart Hauptmann, given at the Deutsches Theater, Berlin, is a characteristically grey story of lower-class suffering, and is not likely to be seen in England except in the hands of the Stage Society or some similar institution. Fräulein Else Lehmann as Rose, a girl who murders her baby, Herr Sauer as her Puritan father, and Herr Bassermann as the villain, distinguished themselves in the interpretation.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. P. P.—A. C. C.—W.—A. C. M. & Co.—P. S. D.—M. D. C.—received.
W. H.—P. V.—Many thanks.
F. V. D.—Certainly.
T. H.—Duly noted.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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